

The labyrinth of magic

MAGI

魔界王子の冒険

原作

大高忍

漫画

大寺義史



HRX SUNDAY
COMICS





WHEN THE
FORMER KING
PASSED AWAY.

IT ALL
STARTED A
FEW MONTHS
AGO



PRINCE
SHARRKAN

PRINCE
ARMAKAN
AND HIS
YOUNGER
BROTHER,

THE
FORMER
KING HAD
TWO SONS.

SO PRINCE
ARMAKAN
WAS THE ONE
ENTHRONED.

HOWEVER,
HIS YOUNGER
BROTHER WAS
STILL ONLY
NINE YEARS
OLD,

HE WASN'T
THE FIRST
IN LINE TO
SUCCEED THE
THRONE.

DUE TO
THE FACT
THAT PRINCE
ARMAKAN WAS
THE SON OF
THE SECOND
QUEEN,



IT WAS
SUDDEN AND
UNEXPECTED.

THE
FOLLOWING
MONTH, THE
SECOND QUEEN
PASSED AWAY.

HOWEVER,
THERE WERE
THOSE WHO
DISAGREED.



ALL OF
THE VICTIMS
WERE PEOPLE
THAT STOOD
BEHIND THE
YOUNG KING
ARMAKAN.

SHORTLY
THEREAFTER, THE
SAME SORTS OF
'SUDDEN' DEATHS
BEGAN HAPPENING
THROUGHOUT
THE CITY.



THIS
MUST BE A
"CURSE"!!

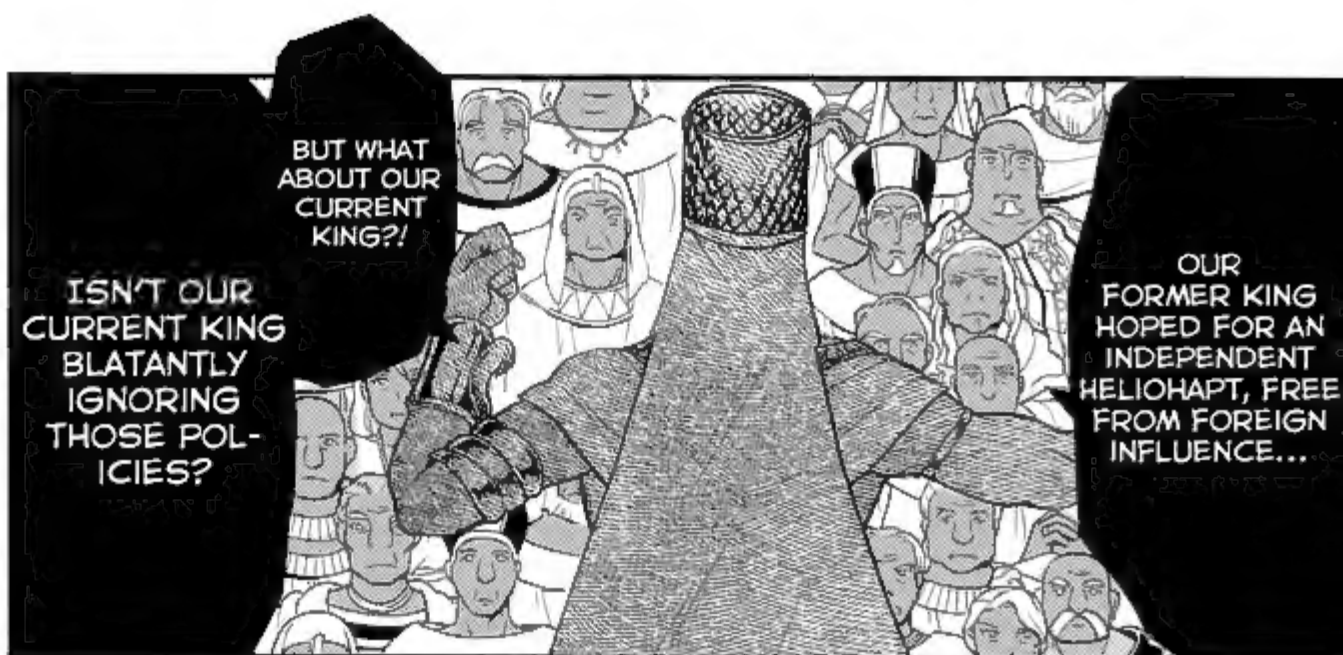
THE
FORMER
KING HAS
BEEN AN-
GERED.

OH...
WHAT A
SITUATION.
OH...

AT
THAT
TIME,

KING
ARMAKAN
WAS LOSING HIS
SUPPORTERS
ONE BY ONE.





BUT WHAT
ABOUT OUR
CURRENT
KING?!

ISN'T OUR
CURRENT KING
BLATANTLY
IGNORING
THOSE POL-
ICIES?

OUR
FORMER KING
HOPED FOR AN
INDEPENDENT
HELIOHAPT, FREE
FROM FOREIGN
INFLUENCE...



WE MUST
GIVE THE
THRONE TO
THE LEGITIMATE
HEIR, PRINCE
SHARRKAN!!

AND THE
ONE WHO
SHOULD
SUCCEED
THE THRONE
IS PRINCE
SHARR-
KAN!!

THE
ONE WHO
INHERITED
THE FOR-
MER KING'S
WILL



HOWEVER,
THERE WAS
SOMETHING
WE REALIZED.

AND BEGAN
PROMOTING
THE YOUNGER
BROTHER, PRINCE
SHARRKAN, AS
THE LEGITIMATE
HEIR TO THE
THRONE.

THE FORMER
KING'S FACTION
STARTED
CALLING THE
SERIES OF
MYSTERIOUS
DEATHS A
"CURSE,"



SO THAT
MADE IT LIKELY
THAT SOMEONE
IN THE FORMER
KING'S FACTION
WAS POISONING
THEM...

THE DEATH
OF THE SECOND
QUEEN, AS WELL
AS THE DEATH OF
THE CURRENT
KING'S SUP-
ALL DIED PORTERS...
BECAUSE
THEY WERE
POISONED.



BUT IF WE
LET THINGS
CONTINUE LIKE
THIS, OUR INTERNAL
STRUGGLES AND
CONFLICTS WILL
ONLY CONTINUE.
WHAT ARE WE
SUPPOSED
TO DO...?



THAT'S
ENOUGH,
NARMES.



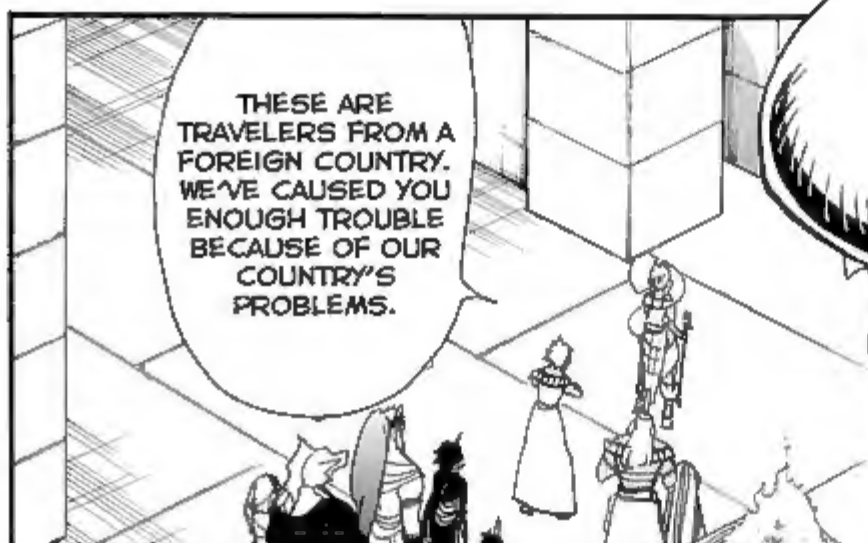
...UNFOR-
TUNATELY, WE
DON'T HAVE
ANY DEFINITIVE
PROOF THAT IT'S
SOMEONE FROM
THE PREVIOUS
KING'S FAC-
TION.

...? IF
YOU REALIZED
THAT, WHY
DIDN'T YOU
DO SOME-
THING?

KING
ARMA-
KAN!!

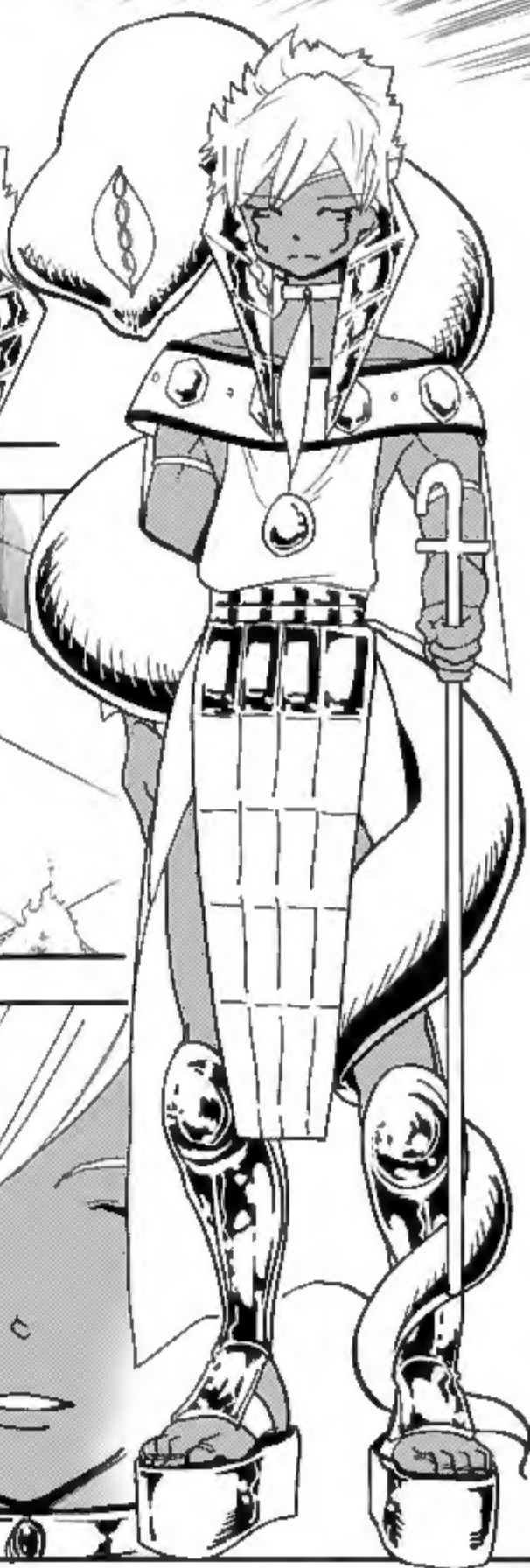


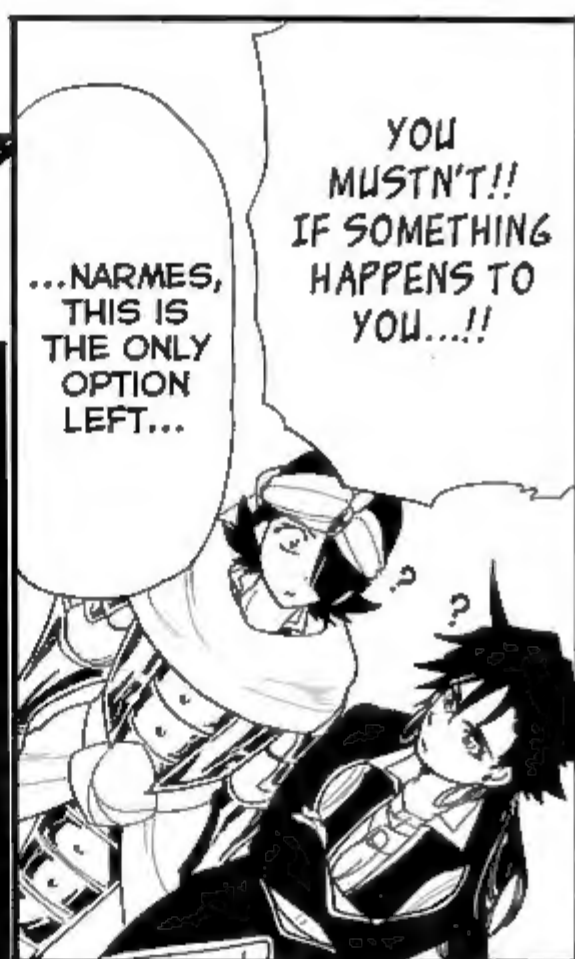
THESE ARE
TRAVELERS FROM A
FOREIGN COUNTRY.
WE'VE CAUSED YOU
ENOUGH TROUBLE
BECAUSE OF OUR
COUNTRY'S
PROBLEMS.



THERE'S
NO REASON
TO DRAG YOU
ANY FURTHER
INTO OUR
PROBLEMS.

IT WOULD
BE BETTER
FOR YOU IF
YOU LEFT
THIS COUNTRY
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.





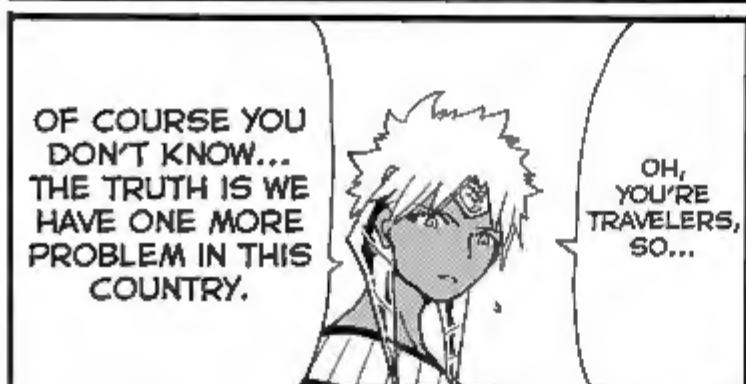


COULD THAT
STRUCTURE
BE...

...PLEASE
WAIT A
MINUTE!

THE
MYSTERIOUS
STRUCTURE IT
BECAME!!

TO THE
PLACE THAT
USED TO BE
THE ROYAL
TOMB...



OF COURSE YOU
DON'T KNOW...
THE TRUTH IS WE
HAVE ONE MORE
PROBLEM IN THIS
COUNTRY.

OH,
YOU'RE
TRAVELERS,
SO...



!!!

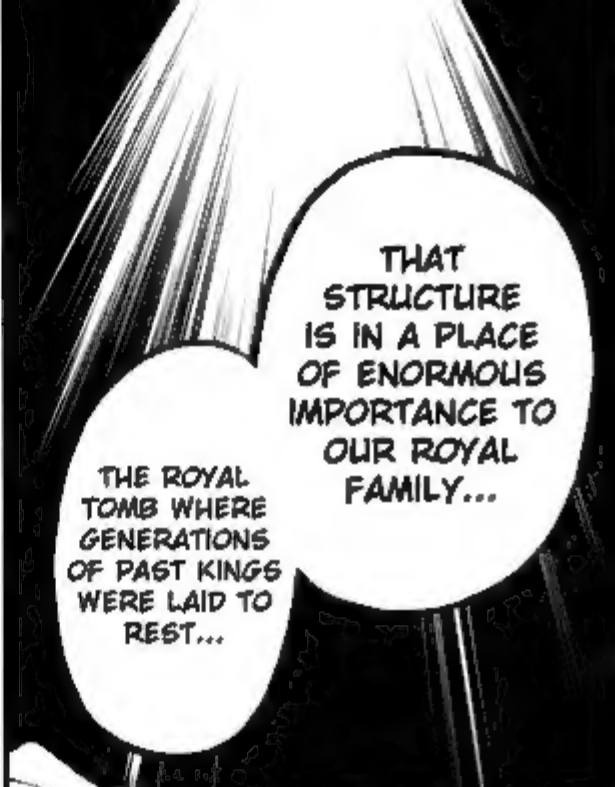
NO MATTER
HOW MANY
SOLDIERS
WE SENT TO
INVESTIGATE
IT, NOT A
SINGLE ONE
EVER CAME
BACK.

WITHIN THE
BORDERS OF
OUR COUNTRY,
A MYSTERIOUS
STRUCTURE
APPEARED
OVERNIGHT.



A close-up of a character's face, showing their eyes and a slight smile. The character has dark hair and is wearing a headband.

TO US, THE
ROYAL TOMB
IS THE MOST
SACRED PLACE
IN HELIOHAPT.

A large, dark, conical structure, possibly a tomb or a monument, with a bright light shining down from the top.

THE ROYAL
TOMB WHERE
GENERATIONS
OF PAST KINGS
WERE LAID TO
REST...

THAT
STRUCTURE
IS IN A PLACE
OF ENORMOUS
IMPORTANCE TO
OUR ROYAL
FAMILY...

A character with spiky hair, wearing a white robe with a high collar and a belt. They are holding a sword and looking down.

AND IS THE
PLACE WHERE
ALL NEW KINGS
SUCCEED THE
THRONE THROUGH
A FORMAL
INVESTITURE...

IT
ALLOWS PAST
GENERATIONS
OF KINGS TO
WATCH OVER
US,

A landscape with a large, dark, conical structure in the background. The foreground shows a path leading towards the structure, with some smaller structures and a body of water.

EVER
SINCE THAT
STRUCTURE
APPEARED,

OUR ROYAL
TOMB HAS
CHANGED TO
BECOME A
PART OF IT.



... HOWEVER,
CURRENTLY, THE
ROYAL TOMB HAS
TURNED INTO
SOMETHING
ENTIRELY DIF-
FERENT...

HERE IN
HELIOHAPT,
FOR THE HEIR IT HAS BEEN A
NAMED BY THE CUSTOM SINCE
PREVIOUS KING TO BE FORMALLY
NAMED KING IN A
CEREMONY HELD
AT THE ROYAL
TOMB.

...YES.

AN INVES-
TITURE?



NOBODY
KNOWS THE
IDENTITY OF
THE TRUE
HEIR.

IN OTHER
WORDS, WE
HAVE NO WAY
OF KNOWING IF
LORD ARMAKAN
IS THE LEGIT-
IMATE HEIR TO
THE THRONE.

TO THIS DAY,
WE HAVE BEEN
UNABLE TO HOLD
A FORMAL INVES-
TITURE FOR KING
ARMAKAN.

BUT IF WE
CAN'T ENTER
THE ROYAL
TOMB, WE CAN'T
VERIFY WHAT
IS WRITTEN
THERE.

THE WORDS
OF THE FOR-
MER KING ARE
CARVED INTO HIS
SARCOPHAGUS,





PUT YOUR
MIND AT
EASE, YOUR
MAJESTY.



.....

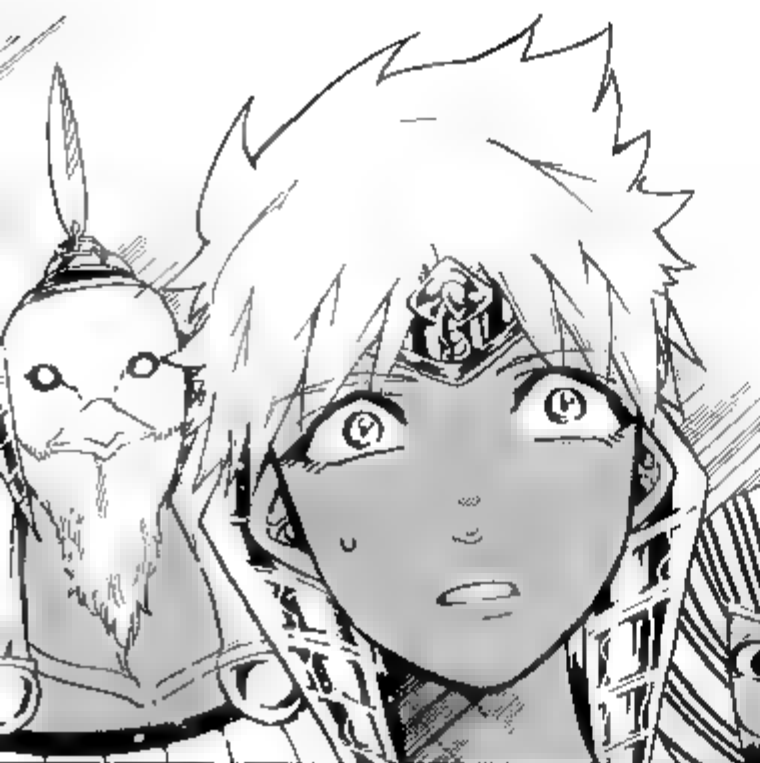


WE'LL
TAKE CARE
OF IT.



PLEASE
LEAVE THE
STRUCTURE...
NO, THE "DUN-
GEON" TO
US...





THAT
STRUCTURE IS
UNDOUBTEDLY
ONE OF THE MANY
DUNGEONS THAT ARE
NOW APPEARING
AROUND THE
WORLD.

...SINBAD,
JUST WHO IN
THE WORLD...
ARE YOU...



HOWEVER, IF
YOU CONQUER IT,
THE STRUCTURE
DISAPPEARS AND
THE PLACE IT STOOD
WILL RETURN TO THE
WAY IT WAS BEFORE.
WE'VE ALREADY
CONQUERED
TWO OF THEM.

A
DUNGEON
IS A DAN-
GEROUS
PLACE.



WAIT
JUST A
MINUTE!!

!?



PLEASE
LEAVE EVERY-
THING TO
US.



VIZIER
GAFRA...

AND QUEEN
DOWAGER,
LADY PATRA
... !!

MAKING UP
LIES ABOUT US
SCHEMING TO
POISON PEOPLE
AND PASSING
IT OFF AS A
CURSE...!!

OH,
NARMES...
HOW DE-
PLORABLE.

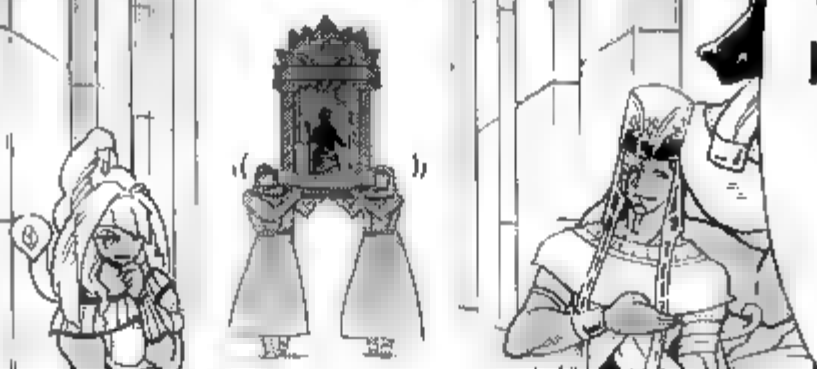


IT SEEMS
LIKE THE ONLY
ONE CAPABLE
OF LEADING
OUR COUNTRY
CORRECTLY IS
MY SON

SHARRKAN
SHOULD BE
KING AFTER
ALL!

THE TRUE
KING WHO
INHERITED THE
WILL OF THE
FORMER KING,
PLEASE SHOW
YOURSELF.

OUR
KING
...



LORD
SHARRKAN.

THE
SECOND
PRINCE





THE SECOND
PRINCE, LORD
SHARRKAN!!

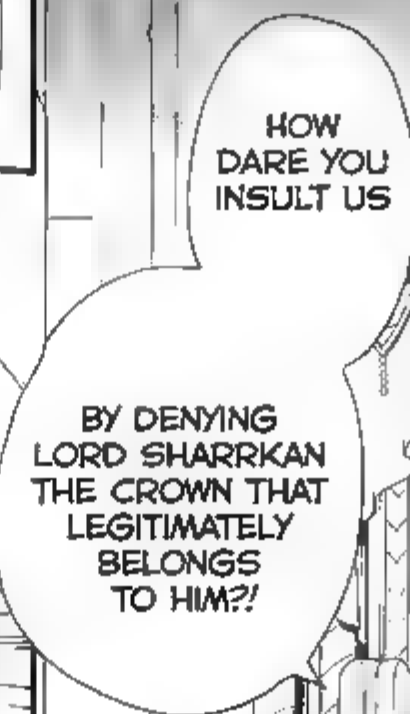
THIS IS THE
TRUE KING OF
HELIOHAPT,



NARMES.



YOU'RE AN
EMBARRASSMENT
AS A CONSUL!



HOW
DARE YOU
INSULT US

BY DENYING
LORD SHARRKAN
THE CROWN THAT
LEGITIMATELY
BELONGS
TO HIM?!



HMPH...

WITH SUCH
UNCERTAINTY
SURROUNDING
THE THRONE, YOU
SURE SEEM TO
THINK YOU KNOW
EVERYTHING...

AND AIMING
TO TAKE THE
THRONE FOR
YOURSELVES,
AREN'T YOU?!

YOU'RE
USING THE
FACT THAT WE'VE
BEEN UNABLE TO
ENTER THE ROYAL
TOMB TO HAVE
OUR FORMAL
INVESTITURE,

I'VE SAID
NOTHING BUT
THE TRUTH!



GAFRA!!
YOU BAS-
TARD



...LORD
ARMAKAN.



THE MAJORITY
OF THE PEOPLE
ALREADY SUPPORT
THE FORMER KING'S
FACTION. JUST WHAT
IS IT GOING TO TAKE
FOR YOU TO ACCEPT
THAT'S THE WAY
THINGS ARE?

THAT'S
JUST FURTHER
PROOF THAT
LORD SHARR-
KAN IS THE
LEGITIMATE
HEIR.





!!?



SHUT UP,
FALSE KING
ARMAKAN.



BESIDES,
I SAW IT...



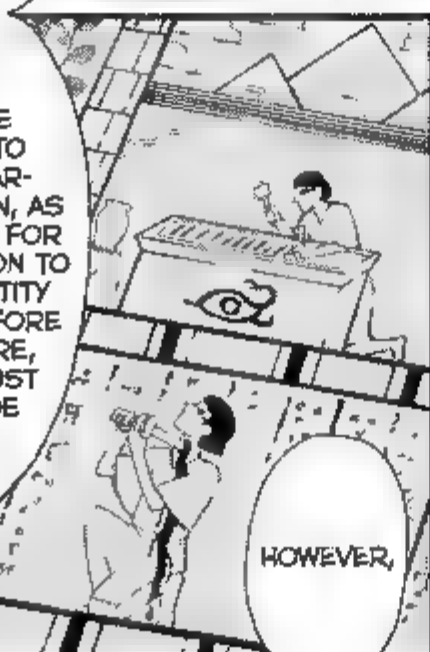
I WAS
ENTRUSTED WITH
THE WILL OF THE
FORMER KING, AND
AS THE ONE WITH
THE MOST DIRECT
LINE OF SUCCESSION, I AM THE
ONE THAT SHOULD
LEGITIMATELY
INHERIT THE
CROWN.

THE
ONE WHO
SHOULD BE
SEATED ON
THAT THRONE
IS ME.

FOR GENERATIONS, BEFORE THE KING DIES, HE WOULD SUMMON A MASON AND BESTOW UPON HIM THE NAME OF HIS SUCCESSOR.



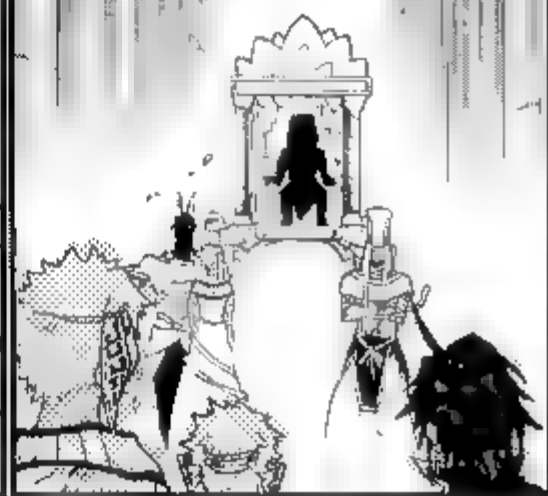
THE MASON WOULD CARVE THAT NAME INTO THE KING'S SARCOPHAGUS. THEN, AS IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR ANY LIVING PERSON TO KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE HEIR BEFORE THE INVESTITURE, THE MASON MUST DIE ALONGSIDE THE KING.



HOWEVER,

WAS MY NAME.

THE NAME THAT MY FATHER, THE FORMER KING, HAD CARVED INTO HIS SARCOPHAGUS...



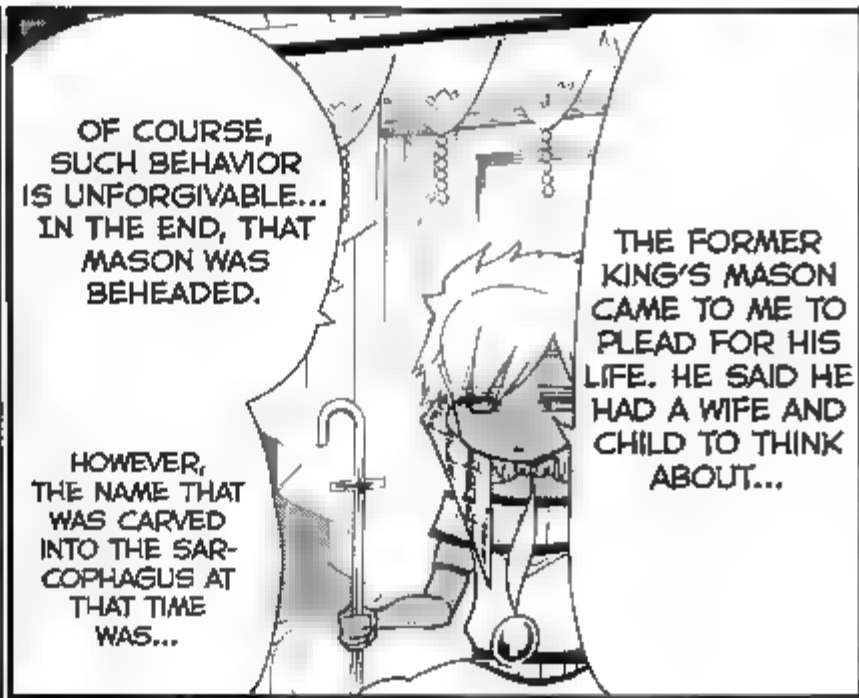
...LORD SHARRKAN'S ..?



OF COURSE, SUCH BEHAVIOR IS UNFORGIVABLE... IN THE END, THAT MASON WAS BEHEADED.

HOWEVER, THE NAME THAT WAS CARVED INTO THE SARCOPHAGUS AT THAT TIME WAS...

THE FORMER KING'S MASON CAME TO ME TO PLEAD FOR HIS LIFE. HE SAID HE HAD A WIFE AND CHILD TO THINK ABOUT...







YOU
WANT THE
THRONE SO
BADLY THAT
YOU'RE WILLING
TO GO THAT
FAR...

HOW
FOOLISH
...

..YOUR
MAJESTY!
P.. PLEASE
WAIT A
MINUTE!!

NEVER SHOW
YOUR FACE IN
FRONT OF ME
AGAIN!!

YOU'RE A
DISGRACE TO
THE ROYAL
FAMILY!!

AT
ANY RATE,
WITH THIS IT'S
DECIDED THAT
SHARRKAN
SHOULD BE
KING.

THAT'S
RIGHT.

HEHE..
HOW TYPICAL
OF THE YOUNG
KING TO LOSE
HIS COMPO-
SURE.



TRAVELERS,
YOU SAID
YOU KNOW
SOMETHING
ABOUT THAT
MYSTERIOUS
STRUCTURE?

IN FACT, WE
MUST VISIT THE
ROYAL TOMB AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE
TO DECLARE SHARR-
KAN AS THE HEIR
TO THE THRONE...

THAT'S
RIGHT...
NOW WE NO
LONGER NEED
TO PREVENT
THE INVESTI-
TURE.



MAKE IT
SO THAT WE
CAN ENTER
THE ROYAL
TOMB.

GET RID
OF THAT
"DUNGEON"
AND RETURN
THE LOCATION
TO THE WAY IT
WAS BEFORE.

PERFECT.
I'LL GIVE YOU
A SPECIAL
MISSION.





IT'S AN
IMPORTANT
MISSION FOR
YOU TO FULFILL
AS FOREIGN-
ERS!

YOU'LL BE
REWARDED FOR
YOUR HELP! WE'LL
EVEN GIVE YOU THE
RIGHT TO TRADE
WITH HELIOHAPT.



NOW WE
MUST MAKE
THE NECESSARY
PREPARATIONS
FOR THE IN-
VESTITURE

THEN WE'LL
COME TO
COLLECT YOU
TOMORROW
MORNING.



IS
IT REALLY
OKAY TO
HELP THEM
OUT, SIN?

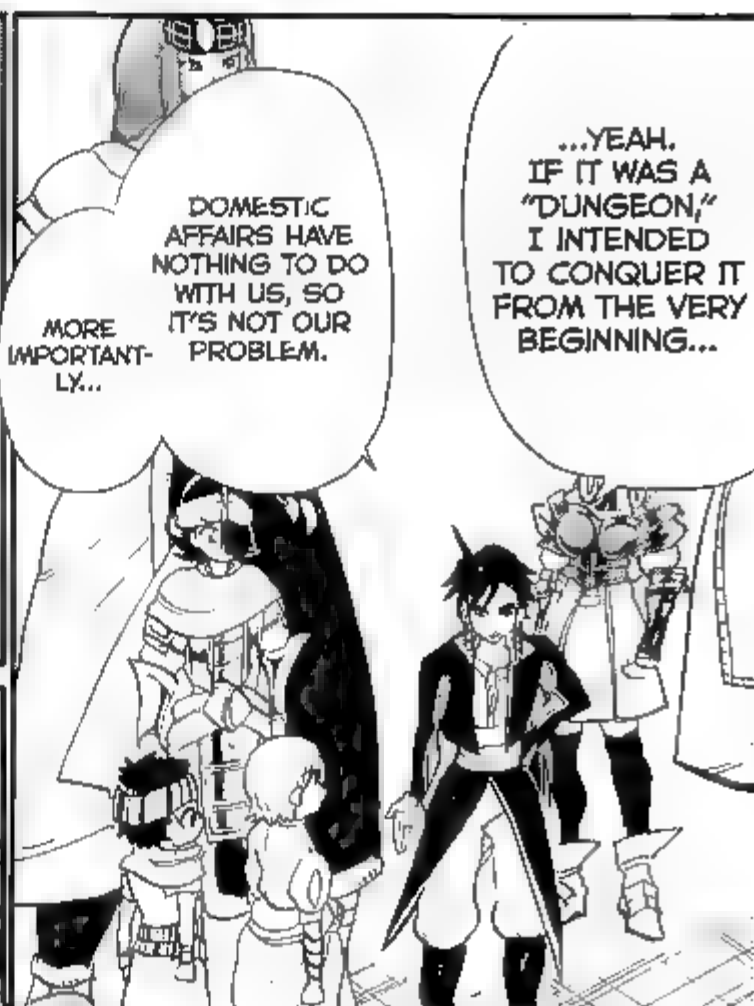
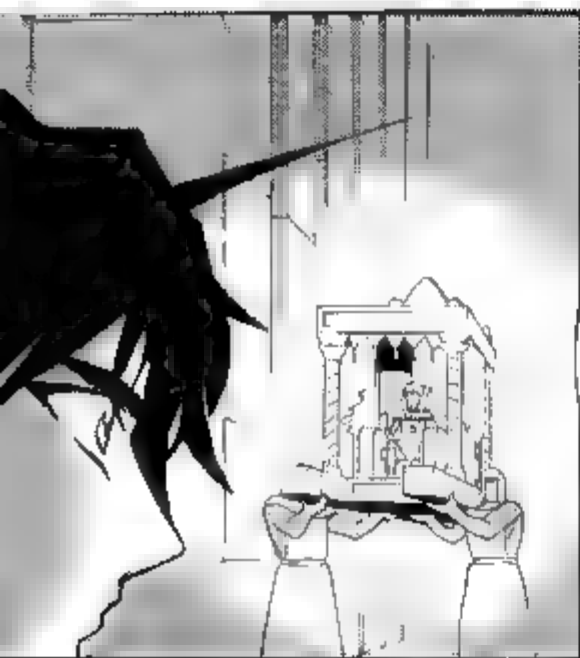
HA
HA
HA !!

AND
INFORM THE
FORMER KING'S
FACTION OF OUR
VICTORY!



PLEASE
LEAVE IT
TO US...

...UNDER-
STOOD.

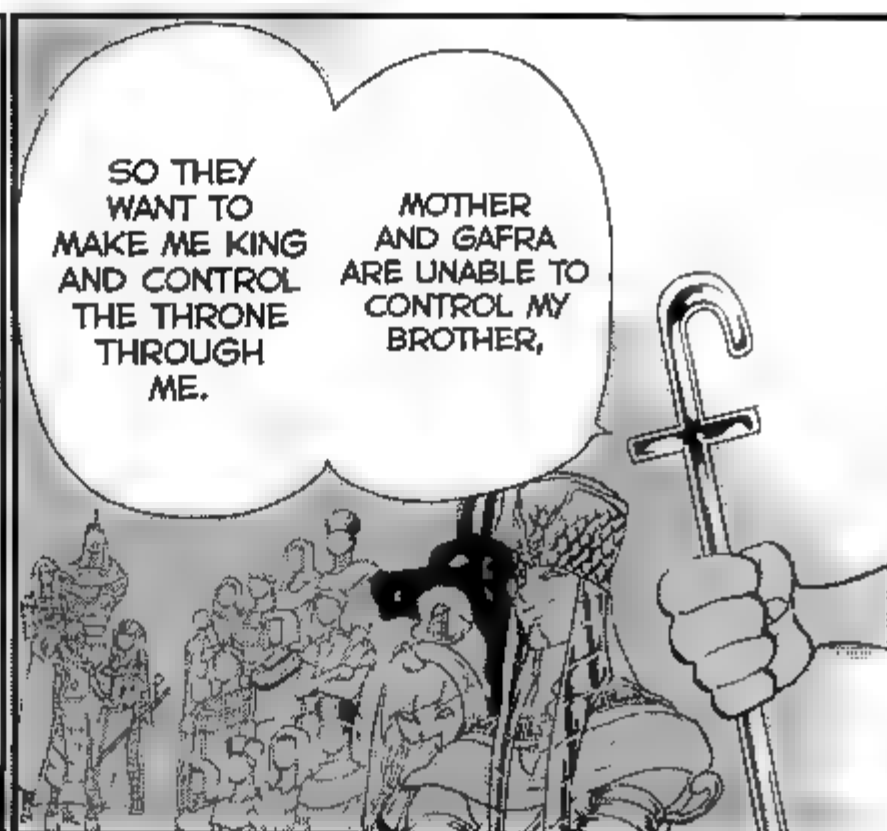






THERE
HASN'T BEEN
ANYTHING I
COULD DO
TO STOP
THEM...

EVEN
THOUGH
I KNOW
THAT,



SO THEY
WANT TO
MAKE ME KING
AND CONTROL
THE THRONE
THROUGH
ME.

MOTHER
AND GAFRA
ARE UNABLE TO
CONTROL MY
BROTHER,



ALL A
LIE.



WHAT I SAID
BEFORE...

THE STORY
ABOUT HOW
MY NAME WAS
CARVED INTO THE
SARCOPHAGUS...
AND ABOUT THE
MASON BEING
BEHEADED... IT
WAS REALLY...

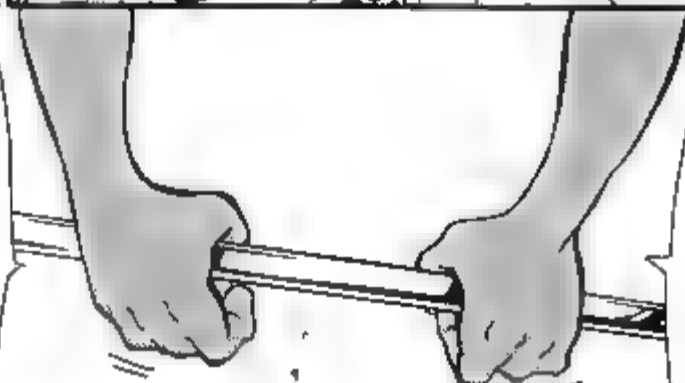


WHY DID
YOU TELL
SUCH A
LIE?



I THOUGHT IT
WAS STRANGE.
IF IT WAS THE
TRUTH, THEN IT
MADE NO SENSE
FOR YOU TO HAVE
KEPT IT FROM THE
QUEEN DOWAGER
AND VIZIER.

THEN MOTHER
AND THE OTHERS
WOULDN'T HAVE LET
YOU ANYWHERE NEAR
THAT MYSTERIOUS
STRUCTURE...



BECAUSE IF
I DIDN'T SAY
SOMETHING,

PLEASE...
GET RID OF
THAT "DUN-
GEON."



BUT...
THERE'S NO
ONE ELSE I
CAN ASK.



ASKING
COMPLETE
STRANGERS
...

AND
FOREIGNERS
ON TOP OF
THAT... FOR
HELP MAY BE
A MISTAKE.





THAT
MYSTERIOUS
BUILDING IS
THE "DUN-
GEON."

...OR IT
SHOULD BE,
BUT NOW IT'S
JUST AS YOU
SEE.

THIS IS
THE ROYAL
TOMB.









...I
KNOW.

THE ONE
THAT WILL
BE PUT IN A
PRECARIOUS
POSITION IS YOU,
ISN'T IT, PRINCE
SHARRKAN?



IF IT
TURNS
OUT THAT
YOUR NAME IS
NOT THE ONE
ENGRAVED ON
THE SARCOPH-
AGUS IN THE
ROYAL TOMB,

I NEVER
WANTED
THAT.

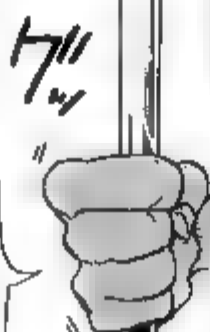
BUT
THE ONES
WHO WANTED THE
CONFLICT WERE
ONLY THE ONES
AROUND ME...



HAVE
CONSTANTLY
BEEN FORCED
TO OPPOSE ONE
ANOTHER. . I
HAD TO BEAR THE
WEIGHT OF THAT
SITUATION...

EVER
SINCE WE
WERE BORN,
MY BROTHER
AND I

...I DON'T
CARE IF I'M
HATED... AS LONG
AS HELIOHAPT
CAN RETURN TO
BEING THE WAY
IT SHOULD BE.



THE
TRUTH IS...
I WANTED
SOMETHING
MORE NOR-
MAL...





THAT'S MY
RESPONSIBILITY...
AS ROYALTY.

...PLEASE
HELP US.



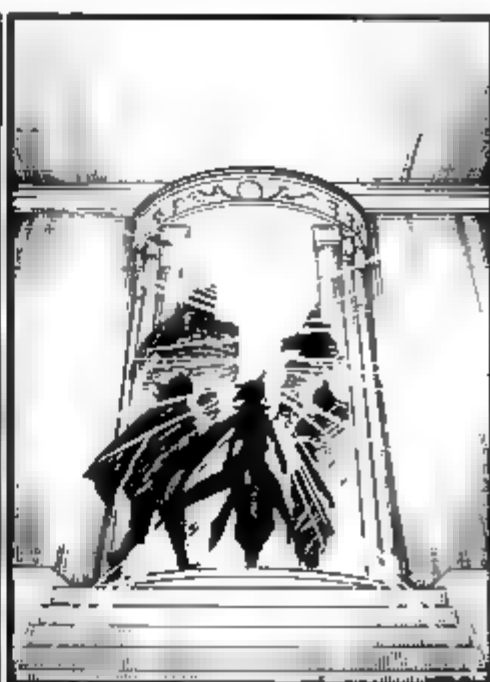
.....

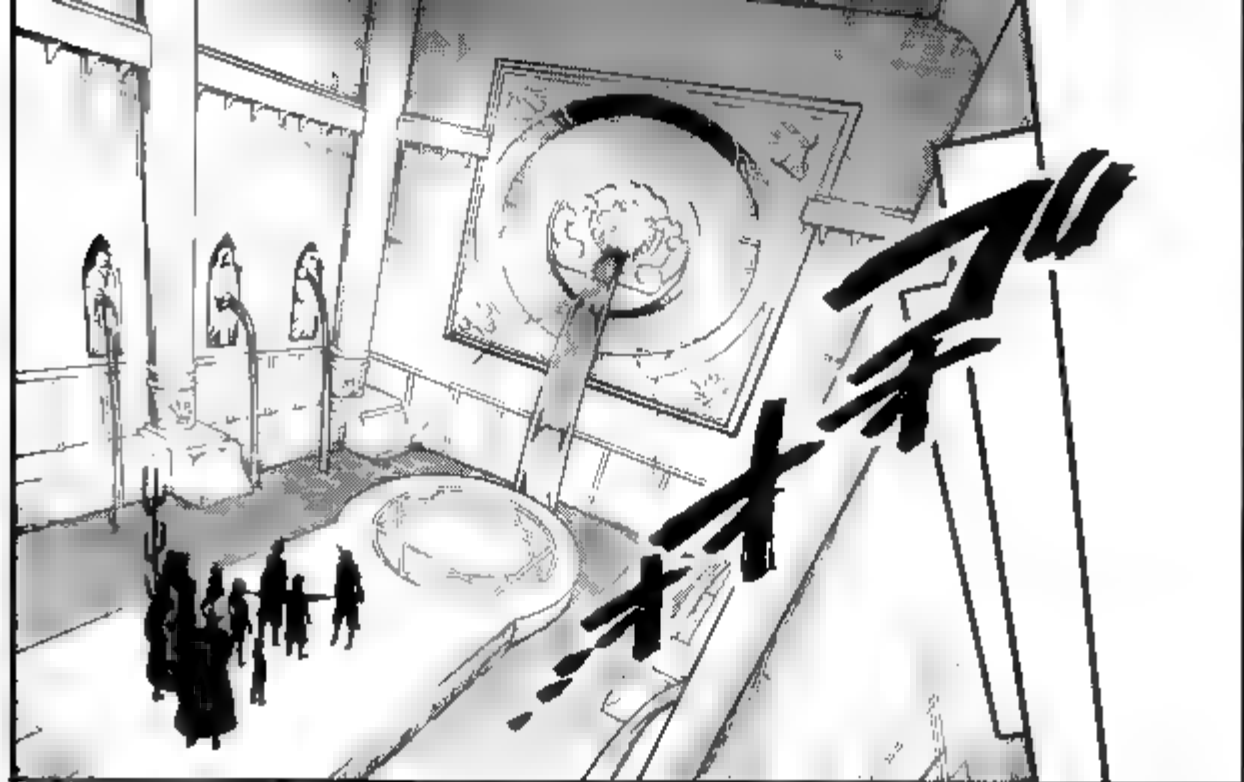
PLEASE
BRING THE
CONFLICT IN
THIS COUNTRY
TO AN END...

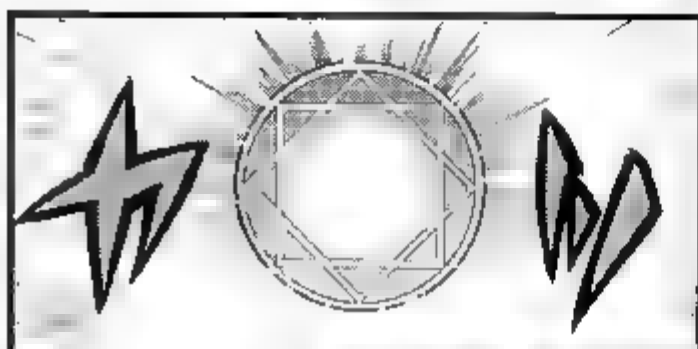


AH
HA
HA
HA!













...?
WHERE...
ARE WE
...?

My Djinn
equip's gone Owww

OUCH!!

UWAH!!

I AM THE
DJINN OF THIS
DUNGEON.

THIS
IS THE
TREAS-
URY.

AND
I'D PREFER
IF YOU DON'T
DESTROY IT, SO
I TRANSPORTED
YOU HERE.

I'M
RATHER
ATTACHED TO
THIS DUN-
GEON,



ZEPAR.

**I AM
THE DJINN
OF SPIRIT AND
PUPPETRY...**



HUMANS.

**WEL-
COME,**



YOU'VE
BROUGHT
SEVERAL
DJINNS WITH
YOU...

YOU...
YOU'RE
UNUSUAL,
AREN'T
YOU?

JUST
LIKE THAT
KING...



...THAT
KING?



IT IS.
...BUT...

UMM...
THIS IS THE
END OF THIS
DUNGEON,
RIGHT?



NO,
NEVER
MIND.

BUT
INSTEAD
OF THAT
KING, YOU'RE
MORE LIKE
...

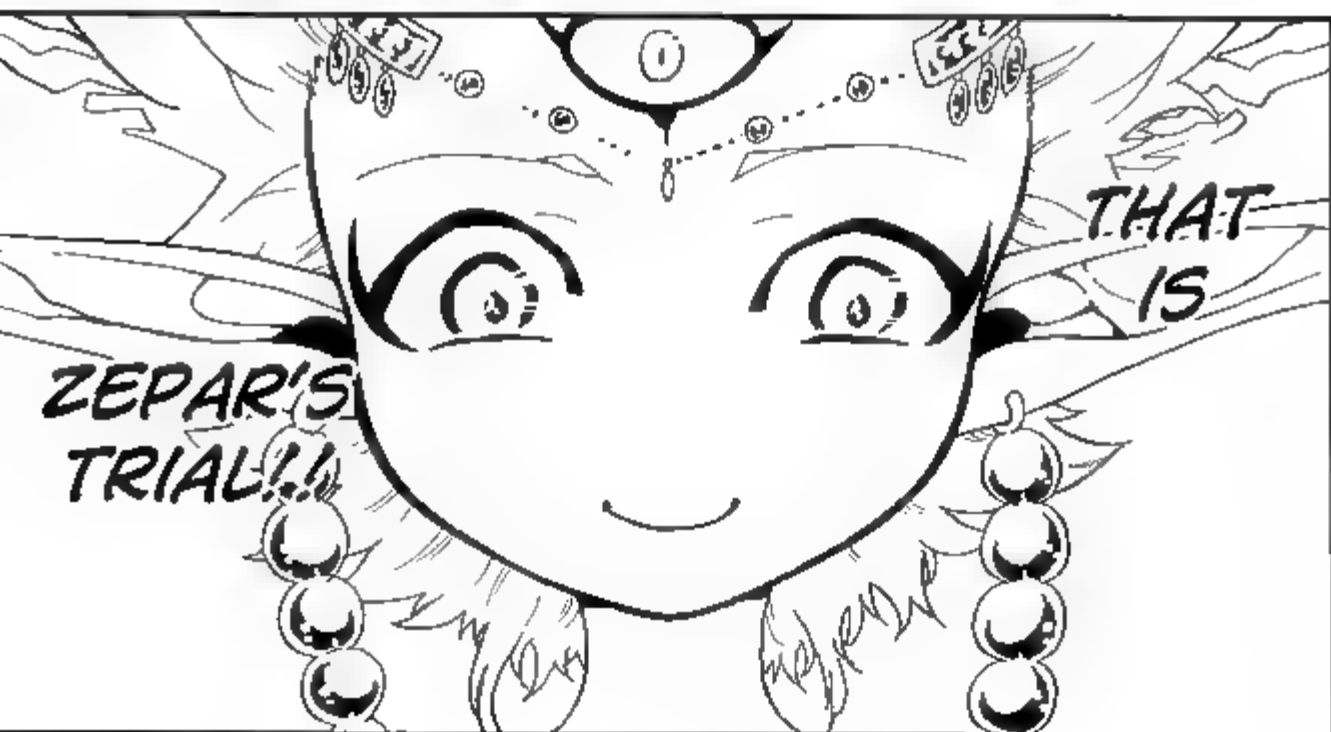




AS A
KING, JUST
HOW WELL WILL
YOUR ALLIES
OBEY YOU
...?

IT'S
NOT YOUR
STRENGTH, BUT
THE STRENGTH
OF YOUR ALLIES
THAT I'LL BE
TESTING.

THAT WILL
BE MY TRIAL
FOR YOU.





OKAY...

SINBAD...
IF ALL OF YOUR
FOLLOWERS PASS
MY TEST, THEN I
WILL GRANT YOU
THE POWER OF
A KING.



TO PASS THE
DJINN'S TESTS,
WE MUST BE
CONFIDENT IN
OUR ABILITIES,
BUT...

HOW-
EVER,

IF EVEN
ONE PERSON
FAILS, YOU
WILL FAIL
THE WHOLE
TRIAL...

I'M
SURE IT'S
NOT GOING
TO BE THAT
STRAIGHT-
FORWARD.
MORE-
OVER...

AND
THIS WILL
BE THE
END FOR
ALL OF
YOU.

IF EVEN
ONE OF US
FAILS, THIS IS
THE END...



WHAT
KIND OF
TEST WILL
IT BE...?!

WHAT
SHOULD
WE DO...



SO, THE
REQUIREMENT
IS JUST THAT
EVERYONE HAS
TO PASS THE
TEST, RIGHT?



HEY, WAIT
A MINUTE.



YOU ALL
MADE IT THIS
FAR BY FIGHT-
ING TOGETHER...
BECAUSE YOU'RE
MY FRIENDS
AND ALLIES!

IT'S NOT
DIFFICULT.
I BELIEVE IN
THE STRENGTH
OF EACH AND
EVERY ONE
OF YOU.

WHAT IS
THERE TO
BE WORRIED
ABOUT?



THEN
LET'S GET
STARTED.





イナシ

I'LL BE
TESTING THAT
STRENGTH
OF YOURS.



ALL RIGHT.
FIRST UP, I'LL
HAVE YOUR
FELLOW ALLIES
FIGHT EACH
OTHER HERE.



THAT WILL
MAKE IT
EASY TO
MEASURE
YOUR ST-
RENGTH.





THIS IS A
SERIOUS
FIGHT.

OH,
PLEASE
DON'T
RELAX
JUST
YET.



SOUNDS
INTERES-
TING.

FIGHT...
YOU MEAN
IN A MATCH?



THEN,

I'LL CHOOSE
THE PAIR FOR
THE FIRST
MATCH. FIRST
UP IS...



I EXPECT YOU
TO USE YOUR
FULL STRENGTH
FOR THIS FIGHT
I AM JUDGING
YOUR STRENGTH
AFTER ALL.



YOU
TWO.

WHICH ONE
OF YOU CAN
BE CALLED THE
KING'S SWORD...?
IT WOULD BE BENE-
FICIAL TO DECIDE
WHICH ONE OF
YOU WIELDS THE
STRONGEST
SPEAR.

A WARRI-
OR AND A
KNIGHT.

WITH SIMILAR
WEAPONS LIKE
THE HARPOON
AND THE LANCE
... YOU SEEM
WELL SUITED
TO FACE EACH
OTHER.

STRENGTH IS
NECESSARY
IN ORDER
TO PROTECT
YOUR KING.

...EXCUSE
ME. CAN I
SAY SOME-
THING?

THE
STRONG-
EST...

SPEAR
...!!

I DON'T
MIND PROVING
OURSELVES
THROUGH A
MATCH...

BUT, THIS
PAIRING...
IS IT REALLY
AN APPROPRI-
ATE ONE?



IN COM-
PARISON,

EVEN
THOUGH
MISTORAS
IS A KNIGHT,
HE'S ONLY
A NORMAL
HUMAN
BEING.



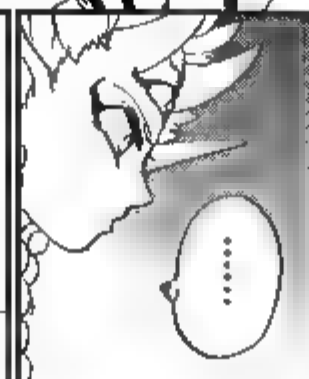
LORD
HINAHO-
HO IS

FROM THE
NATION OF
IMUCHAKK, A
RACE THAT HAS
SUPERHUMAN
STRENGTH AND
UNNATURALLY
RESILIENT
BODIES.



PLEASE
WAIT A
MINUTE!

...DJINN,
IF THIS IS
REALLY FOR
YOU TO TEST
THEIR TRUE
STRENGTH...



...



I DON'T
FEEL DIS-
SATISFIED
WITH THE
DJINN'S
CHOICE
AT ALL.

THAT'S
NOT TRUE,
JA'FAR.



THINKING
ABOUT IT
REASONABLY,
IF YOU'RE
PAIRING
SOMEONE
AGAINST
LORD HI-
NAHOHO,

IT SEEMS
MORE SUIT-
ABLE TO
CHOOSE
SOMEONE
LIKE LORD
DRAKON.

...SO
WHY DIDN'T
YOU CHOOSE
TO DO SO?



AND I DON'T
HAVE A HOUSE-
HOLD VESSEL
LIKE YOU AND
SOME OF THE
OTHERS DO,
JA'FAR, BUT...

IT'S TRUE
THAT I'M NOT
FROM SOME
SPECIAL
RACE OF
PEOPLE,



A KNIGHT
OF SASAN.

BUT
I AM







NOW IF
YOU'RE BOTH
PREPARED...



THE
MATCH WILL
CONTINUE UNTIL
ONE OF YOU IS
DEFEATED.



LET'S
BEGIN!



THIS IS
A FIGHT
BETWEEN
SPEAR
WIELD-
ERS.

IT'S A
SERIOUS
ONE-ON-ONE
MATCH THAT
WILL CONTINUE
UNTIL ONE
OF THEM IS
DEFEATED.







BUT HE
CAN'T JUST
KEEP RUN-
NING AWAY,
EITHER.



IT WOULD BE
DIFFICULT TO
WITHSTAND
EVEN ONE
OF THOSE
ATTACKS.

HE'S GOT
THE SAME
RIDICULOUS
STRENGTH
AS ALWAYS,
HUH?



TCH... I
OVERDID
IT, HUH?



!!

UGH
....!!

HAAH!!

カ
カ
カ
カ

THAT'S THE
SPEARMANSHIP
HE LEARNED AS
ONE OF THE SA-
SAN KNIGHTS...
HE LEAVES NO
OPENING FOR
A COUNTER-
ATTACK.

SO
FAST
....!!

HE'S EVEN
FASTER THAN
HE WAS WHEN
I SAW HIM FIGHT
IN SASAN. WHEN
DID HE... ?!





BUT IF HE CONTINUES TO TAKE ATTACKS LIKE THAT, THE DAMAGE WILL ADD UP. AFTER ALL,

LORD HINAHOHO IS REALLY RESILIENT AFTER ALL...

...HOWEVER,



THAT SURE WAS A GOOD ATTACK.

YOU'VE BARELY LEFT A SCRATCH.



AGAINST THE BODY OF SOMEONE FROM IMUCHAKK ...



A FEW DEVASTATING ATTACKS

FROM A WARRIOR WHOSE BEST WEAPON IS HIS RESILIENCE.



IT'S AN OVERWHELMING NUMBER OF ATTACKS

FROM A KNIGHT WITH UNMATCHED ACCURACY.

VS.



THIS MATCH MAY BE A PRO-
LONGED ONE.



IT'S A
GOOD
MATCH.

MISTORAS
HAS PRACTIC-
ED HARD AND
GAINED A LOT
OF EXPERIENCE
FOR HIS AGE.



IT'S NO GOOD...
I DON'T HAVE
THE STRENGTH
TO DECIDE
THIS MATCH.

AT THIS
RATE, I'LL
BE THE ONE
WHO RUNS
OUT OF
ENERGY
FIRST.

DAMN
IT... THOSE
ATTACKS
HAVE REALLY
TAKEN THEIR
TOLL ON
ME.

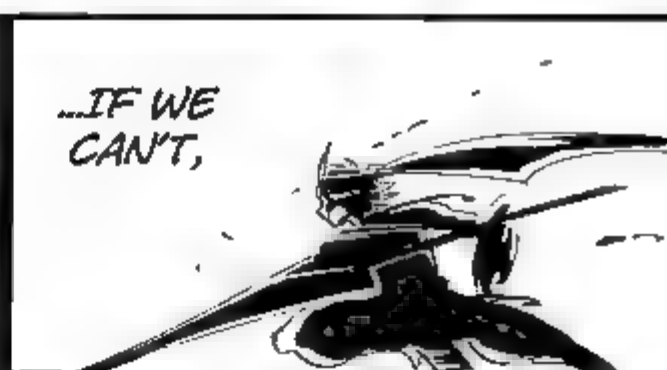
JUST
ONE MORE
ATTACK... IF
I CAN JUST
MAKE IT A
DECISIVE
ONE...



IF I CAN
JUST MUSTER
THE STRENGTH...
TO OVERWHELM
MY OPPONENT IN
THIS ONE FINAL
ATTACK...



THEN
WE...



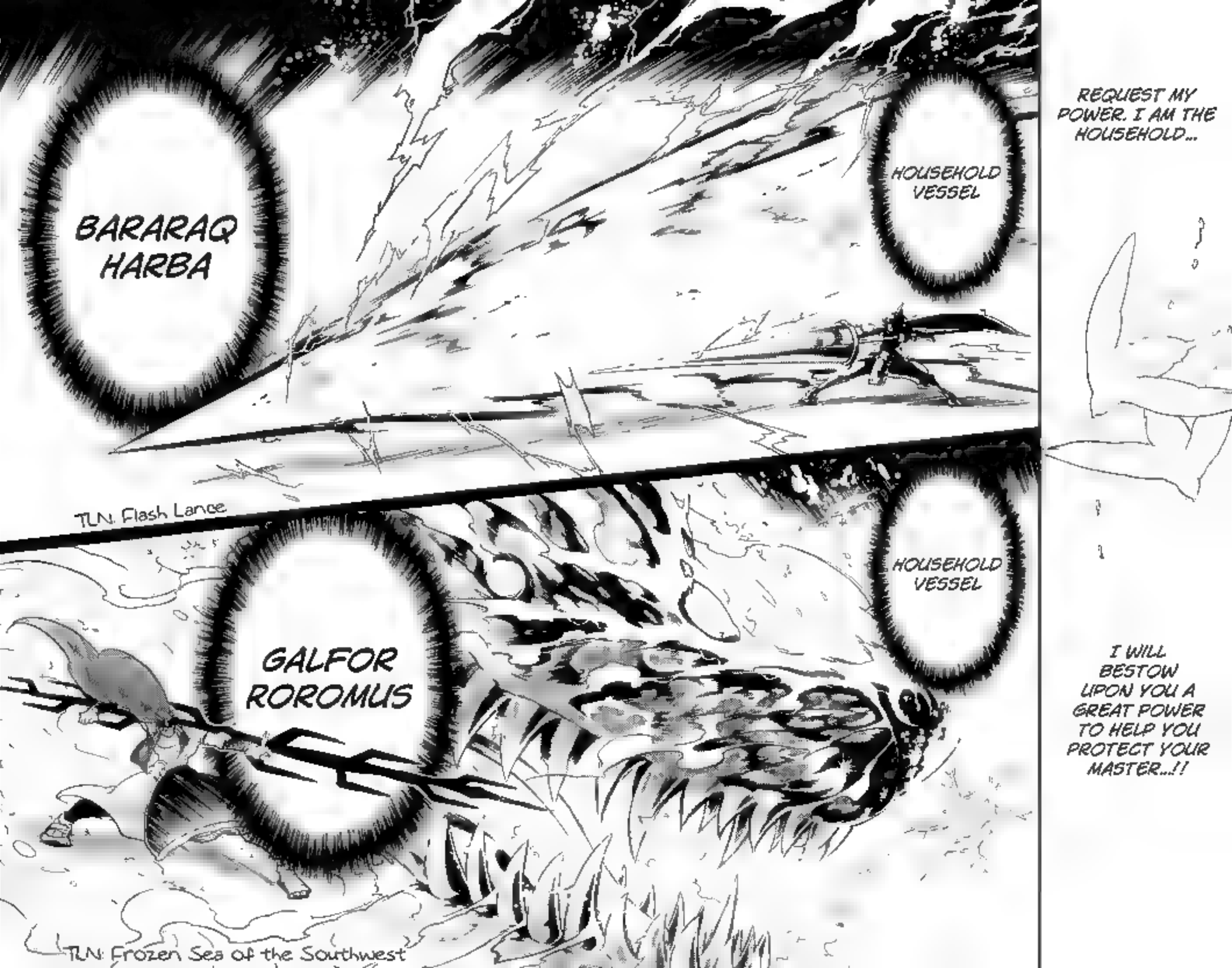
...IF WE
CAN'T,



OUR KING'S
SWORD!!

CAN
NEVER
BECOME





**BARARAQ
HARBA**

HOUSEHOLD
VESSEL

REQUEST MY
POWER. I AM THE
HOUSEHOLD...

TLN: Flash Lance

**GALFOR
ROROMUS**

HOUSEHOLD
VESSEL

I WILL
BESTOW
UPON YOU A
GREAT POWER
TO HELP YOU
PROTECT YOUR
MASTER...!!

TLN: Frozen Sea of the Southwest







THE POWER
OF THEIR
HOUSEHOLD
VESSELS WAS
AT THE SAME
LEVEL, SO THE
ATTACKS CAN-
CELLED EACH
OTHER OUT.

THEY
ARE ALIVE,
ALTHOUGH
THEY'VE BOTH
COMPLETELY
EXHAUSTED
THEIR
ENERGY.

3PS~ん



WELL...
THAT MEANS
THEY BOTH
PASS.

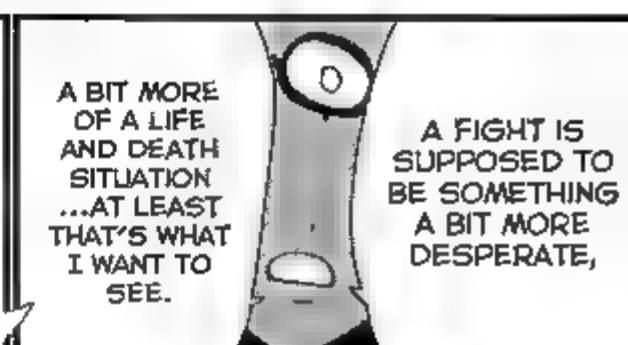
THEY WERE
ABLE TO GET
THIS FAR BY
DRAWING
OUT EACH
OTHER'S
POWER.



BUT,
YOU KNOW,
THAT ENDING
WAS PRETTY
LAME.



LET'S
MAKE IT A
BIT MORE
SERIOUS
NEXT TIME.



A BIT MORE
OF A LIFE
AND DEATH
SITUATION
...AT LEAST
THAT'S WHAT
I WANT TO
SEE.

A FIGHT IS
SUPPOSED TO
BE SOMETHING
A BIT MORE
DESPERATE,



JA'FAR,
MASRUR



IT'LL BE
A FIGHT TO
THE DEATH.

BUT
THIS ISN'T
GOING TO
BE A SIMPLE
CONTEST OF
STRENGTH.



UNTIL ONE OF
YOU MANAGES
TO KILL THE
OTHER.



YOU TWO
WILL BE
FIGHTING





**SHAM
LASH CHIEF
ASSASSIN,
JA'FAR.**



I KNOW
ALL ABOUT
YOU.



IF YOU DIDN'T,
YOU WOULDN'T
HAVE BEEN ABLE
TO CONTINUE IT
SINCE SUCH A
YOUNG AGE.

YOU. YOU
ACTUALLY
ENJOYED
KILLING,
DIDN'T
YOU?

AND HAVE BEEN
KILLING PEOPLE
SINCE BEFORE
YOU WERE EVEN
OLD ENOUGH TO
UNDERSTAND
WHAT YOU WERE
DOING.

YOU
BELONGED
TO A TROUPE
OF ASSAS-
SINS



TORMENTING,
HURTING,

KILLING...

YOU
REALLY
ONLY FELT
ALIVE

WHEN
YOU WERE
OUT FOR
BLOOD,
DIDN'T
YOU?

IF THAT'S
REALLY YOUR
TRUE NATURE,
THEN WHAT
REASON DO
YOU HAVE
TO DENY MY
REQUEST?

SOMEWHERE,
DEEP IN YOUR
HEART, YOU
FOUND ENJOY-
MENT IN DEATH,
DIDN'T YOU?

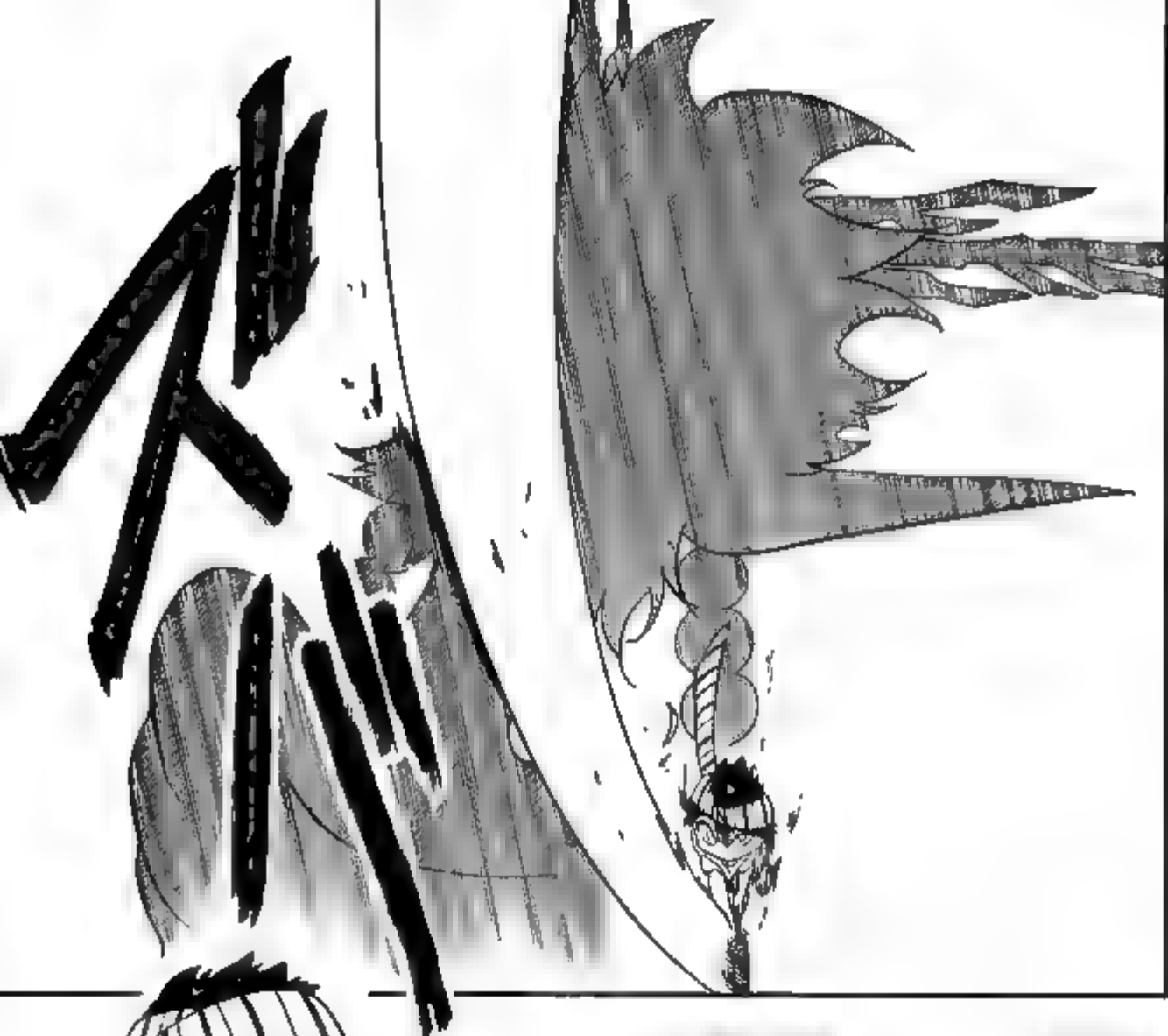


I DON'T
BELIEVE YOU,
MURDERER.

I
DON'T.

YOU
ENJOY IT,
DON'T YOU?
KILLING.







NO ONE CAN
ORDER ME TO
FIGHT TO THE
DEATH EVER
AGAIN.

...I'M
NOT A SLAVE
ANYMORE...



!!



AS LONG
AS YOU'RE IN
THE DUNGEON,
ITS DJINN IS
INVINCIBLE. NOT
A SINGLE ONE OF
YOUR ATTACKS
WILL BE EFFEC-
TIVE.

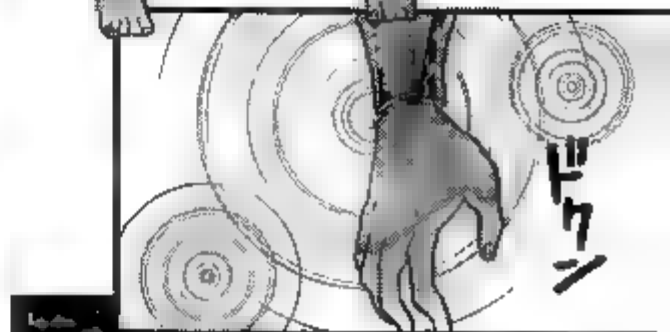
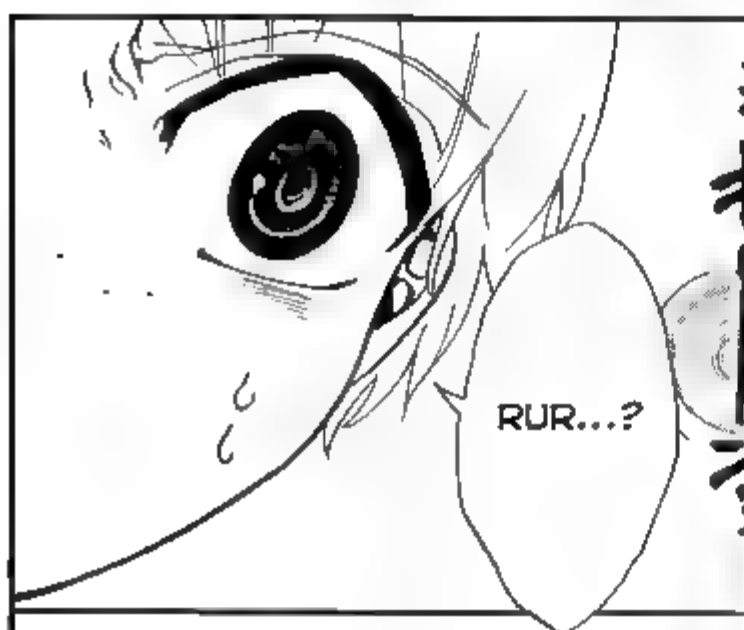
IT'S POINT-
LESS.



...

YOU KIDS
REALLY DON'T
LISTEN TO
WHAT YOU'RE
TOLD.





ビク
ビク
ビク











ONLY
IT MIGHT
BE



THIS
IS...

...NOT
MASRUR!!



DIFF. CULT
TO ADJUST

TO ALL THIS
POWER,
HUH?





ZEPAR?



IT'S YOU
ISN'T IT,

HIS CON-
SCIOUSNESS
IS ASLEEP AND
I'M IN CONTROL
OF HIS BODY
NOW.

I FIDDED
WITH THE
KID'S BRAIN
A BIT.



... HEH.
BINGO.

I HAVE THE
ABILITY TO
MEDDLE WITH
PEOPLE'S
MINDS.









IT'S
NOT
OVER
YET!



AH!!



WHAT
THE HELL
WAS THAT
ATTACK?!



SIN'S
RIGHT... THAT
WAS JUST
A SHOCK
WAVE.

AS MASRUR
ACCELERATED,
THE AIR SUR-
ROUNDING HIM
COMPRESSED,

CREATING
A SLASHING
EFFECT JUST
FROM THE
MOVEMENT
OF THE AIR...



HMPH... I
CAN'T CONTROL
THIS BODY VERY
WELL YET.



WAS
JUST
MOVING
AROUND
AND
YET.

MASRU...
NO, ZEPAR

あゝ

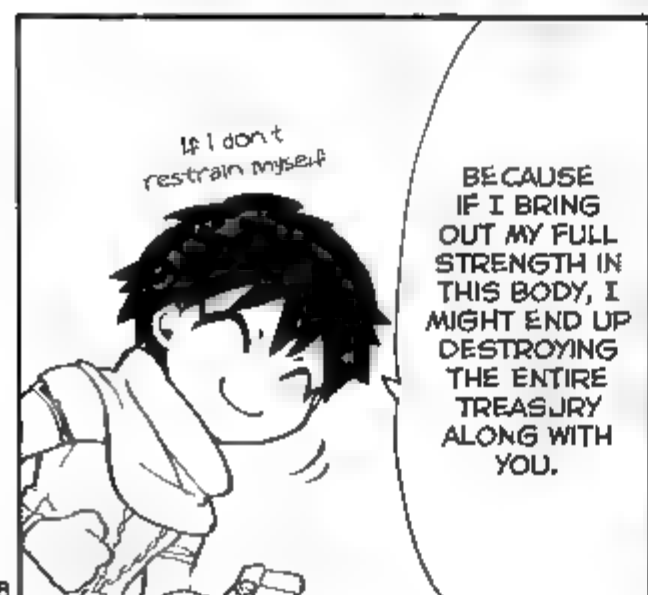


AS LONG AS
I CAN MOVE
IT, I SHOULD
BE ABLE TO
ELIMINATE
YOU.

OH
WELL!



BUT I'D
BETTER BE
CAREFUL
TOO,



If I don't
restrain myself

BECAUSE
IF I BRING
OUT MY FULL
STRENGTH IN
THIS BODY, I
MIGHT END UP
DESTROYING
THE ENTIRE
TREASURY
ALONG WITH
YOU.



THIS
MATCH
HAS
BARELY
STARTED,
RIGHT?

BETTER
PREPARE
YOURSELF.



WHAT IS
THIS...

THIS...
TERRIBLE
PREMONI-
TION...





EVEN THOUGH
JA'FAR WAS
NARROWLY ABLE
TO ESCAPE THAT
ATTACK,

IF THIS
IS MASRUR'S
TRUE POWER, IT
FAR SURPASSES
THAT OF ANY
NORMAL HUMAN
BEING.

IT FEELS
LIKE THE
FANTASTIC
POWER I
GAINED WHEN
I BECAME
LIKE THIS.

IT WAS
ONLY BECAUSE
HIS SKILLS AS
AN ASSASSIN
HAVE MADE HIS
BODY HYPER-
AWARE OF HIS
SURROUNDINGS.
HOWEVER...

IF IT
CONTINUES
LIKE THIS...
HE'LL DIE.

AMAZING.
SO THIS IS
THE POWER
OF A DJINN.

SINBAD
...

.....



IF I
COULD
GET MY
HANDS
ON THE
POWER
OF THAT
DJINN...



TO BE ABLE
TO CONTROL
SUCH A STRONG
PERSON SO
EASILY.

DEPENDING
ON HOW IT'S
USED, THAT
COULD BE A
TERRIFYING
POWER...



PERHAPS I
COULD...





I'LL PUT
AN END TO
YOU WITH ONE
FINAL BLOW.

BUT I'M
ALREADY
BORED OF
THIS.



JA'FAR
DOESN'T
HAVE THE
STRENGTH
LEFT TO
MOVE!!



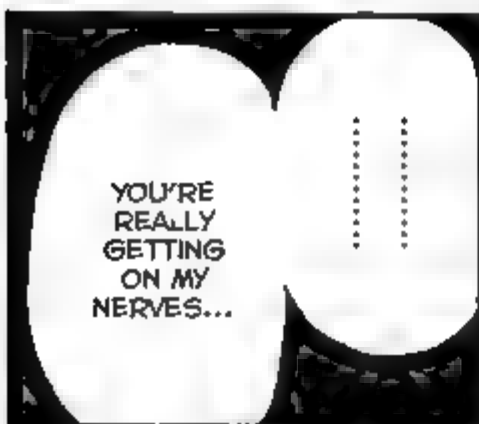
JA'FAR!!



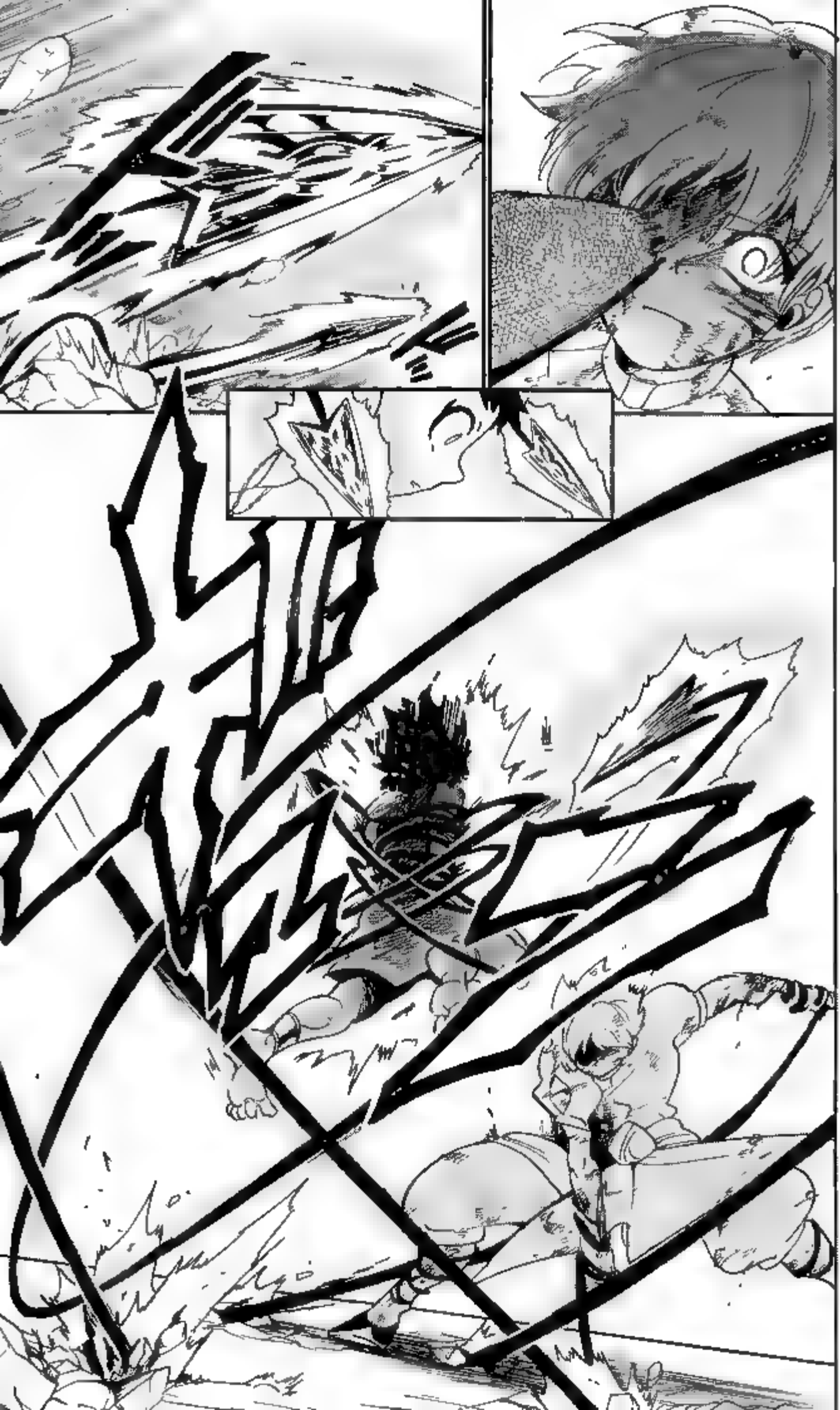
... ALTHOUGH,
IT LOOKS LIKE
EVEN WITHOUT
THAT...











CAUGHT
YOU.

I
FINALLY



WHAT
?!

IT WAS
TOUGH.

WITH
YOUR SPEED,
YOU WERE EASILY
ABLE TO AVOID MY
ATTACKS...

NO
MATTER HOW
STRONG YOU ARE,
YOU CAN'T BREAK
A HOUSEHOLD
VESSEL, CAN
YOU?

SINCE YOU
COULDN'T
COMPLETELY
CONTROL
MASRUR'S
STRENGTH,
YOU WEREN'T
ABLE TO DO
ANYTHING
BUT RUSH
STRAIGHT
AHEAD.

BUT IN
THE END,
THAT'S A
BORROWED
BODY.

うん
まだ身体の制御が
上手にできないや

THE
MOMENT YOU
LET YOURSELF
GET WORKED UP
BY MY PROVO-
CATION WAS THE
MOMENT THAT
SEALED YOUR
DEFEAT

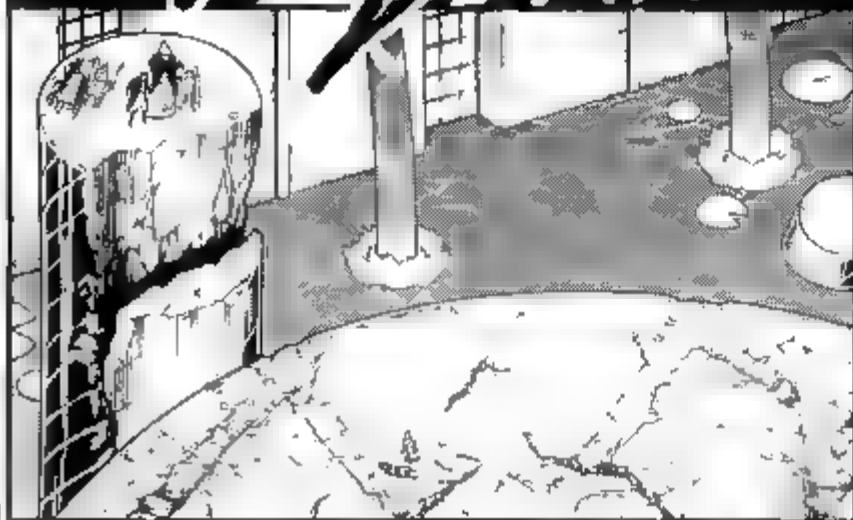
TO A
DJINN LIKE
YOU, HUMANS
ARE INFERIOR
BEINGS.

NO MATTER
HOW FAST
YOU MOVE,

IF I KNOW
WHAT DIRECTION
YOU'RE COMING
FROM, ALL I HAVE
TO DO IS SET
A TRAP.

GET
OUT OF
MASRUR!!

Bararaq
Seil!





MASRUR...
I'M SORRY.

IN THE END,
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY
CHOICE BUT TO
BE ROUGH WITH
HIM



... OWW...

MASRUR!
YOU'RE
AWAKE



YOU ALMOST
KNOCKED ME
OUT COLD.

HEH,
YOU SURE
SURPRISED
ME...



IT'S
OKAY. ONCE
THE MATCH IS
DECIDED, I'LL
LEAVE THIS
BODY.

DON'T
MAKE THAT
FACE.



DECIDED?
WASN'T
IT JUST
DECIDED?!

NOPE...
DIDN'T I
SAY AT THE
START?



YOU
CAN'T END
THIS UNTIL
ONE OF YOU
IS DEAD.

THIS
IS A FIGHT
TO THE
DEATH.



IF ONE
OF YOU DIES,
YOU PASS.

THAT'S
THE TRIAL
I'VE SET
FOR YOU.



GO
ON. KILL
HIM.

IF
YOU KILL
HIM, YOU
WIN.

SOMETHING'S
NOT RIGHT. THE
MATCH SHOULD
ALREADY HAVE
BEEN DECIDED...

JA'FAR
...?

?

IF YOU
WANT TO DO
THAT... KILL
HIM!!

YOU
WANT TO
DEVOTE YOUR
HOUSEHOLD
VESSEL TO
SERVING YOUR
MASTER, DON'T
YOU?



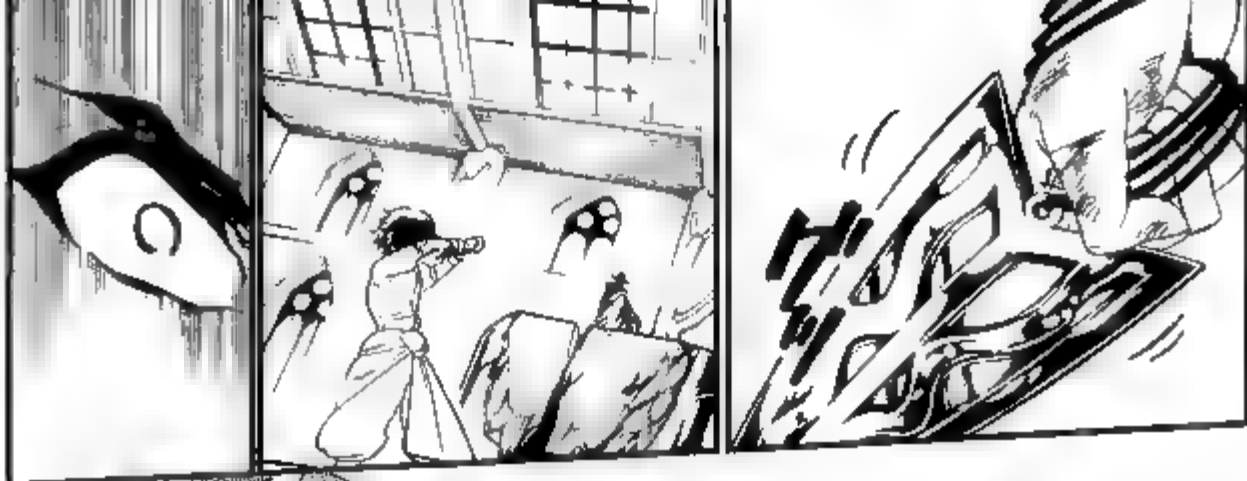
IF
THAT'S THE
CASE,

THEN
IT DOESN'T
MATTER WHICH
ONE OF US
DIES... DOES
IT?

THIS
FIGHT TO
THE DEATH
LASTS UNTIL ONE
OF US DIES...
THAT WAS THE
CONDITION,
RIGHT?













JA'FAR !!



SINBAD ...



JA'FAR, HE'S...

ALREADY ...



AHA
HAHA
HAHA
HAHA!



GOOD
JOB,
JA'FAR.

NICE.



THAT'S
EXACTLY HOW A
LOYAL SUBJECT
SHOULD ACT! I
WANTED TO SEE
JUST HOW MUCH
PAIN YOU'D BE
WILLING TO GO
THROUGH...

FOR
THE SAKE
OF YOUR
KING.

THE
RESOLVE
IT TAKES TO
BE ABLE TO
THROW YOUR
LIFE AWAY FOR
THE SAKE OF
YOUR KING...

THAT'S
IT.

YOU
PASS.

THIS
FIGHT IS
OVER.

IT WAS
A GOOD
MATCH
HUH?

ガッ
ッ



THE
FIRST PAIR
WERE ABLE
TO SURPASS
THE LIMITS
OF THEIR OWN
STRENGTH,



AND
THE NEXT TWO
SHOWED THEIR
WILLINGNESS TO
OFFER UP THEIR
LIVES FOR THEIR
MASTER.



IT WAS
A GOOD FIGHT
THAT BROUGHT
OUT THE
STRENGTH OF
DESPERATION.

YEAH!



... A
GOOD
MATCH?



I COULDN'T
HAVE ASKED FOR
BETTER RESULTS.
YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF
SOME EXCELLENT
SUBORDINATES!



QUIT
FUCKING
AROUND.



THE
NEXT TEST
WILL BE...

NOW THAT
ALL THAT'S
OVER, WHAT
SHALL WE
DO NEXT?



ZEPAR. WE
ARE NOT YOUR
PLAYTHINGS.

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
DOING?



I WON'T
LET YOU GET
AWAY WITH
THIS.

IS THE
OUTCOME,



THEY TOOK
THEIR FIGHTS
SERIOUSLY.



AND
BECAUSE
IT WAS A
TRIAL SET FOR
US BY A DJINN,
I JUST STOOD
BACK AND
WATCHED.
IF THIS..



THEY
LISTENED
TO YOUR UN-
REASONABLE
REQUESTS.



IF
THIS...



IF
THIS...



IF THOSE ARE
THE THINGS THAT
MAKE SOMEONE
A LOYAL SUBJECT,
I DON'T WANT ANY-
THING TO DO WITH
THEM.

CAN YOU
THROW YOUR
LIFE AWAY FOR
YOUR KING?

HOW MUCH
PAIN ARE YOU
WILLING TO
GO THROUGH
FOR THE SAKE
OF YOUR KING?



MY
FRIENDS...
ARE EVERY-
THING!!

I'LL
TAKE IT
ALL UPON
MYSELF!

OR
SUFFER-
ING

WHETHER
IT MEANS
PUTTING MY
LIFE AT
RISK



INVINCIBLE,
RIGHT? BUT
WHAT IF YOU'RE
UP AGAINST
THE POWER
OF ANOTHER
DJINN?

IT'S
POINTLESS
INSIDE A
DUNGEON,
THE DJINN
IS...

BUT I'LL MAKE
YOU REGRET ..
PLAYING AROUND
WITH THE LIVES
OF MY FRIENDS!

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
YOUR REA-
SONING



... THIS
MAN...

IF YOU HAVE
TO FACE BAAL'S
POWER, ARE YOU
SURE THAT YOU'LL
COME OUT UN-
SCATHED... ?





GEEZ...
I SAID I'D
LEAVE THINGS
TO YOU

AND WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?

IT
CAN'T
BE. !!

....
!!

WH...

I ASKED
YOU TO
TAKE CARE
OF THINGS
SO IT
WOULDN'T
END UP
LIKE THIS,
DAMN IT...

IF YOU DO
THIS, THEN
MY DEATH
WOULD'VE
BEEN ALL
FOR NOTHING,
WOULDN'T
IT?

HOW
TROUBLE-
SOME, SIN.

**JA'FAR
?!!**

**WHAT?
IT WAS
SIMPLE.**

Thank
you Lord
Dragon.

confirmed
it with my own
two hands!

**TH... THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!
YOUR HEART HAD
STOPPED...**

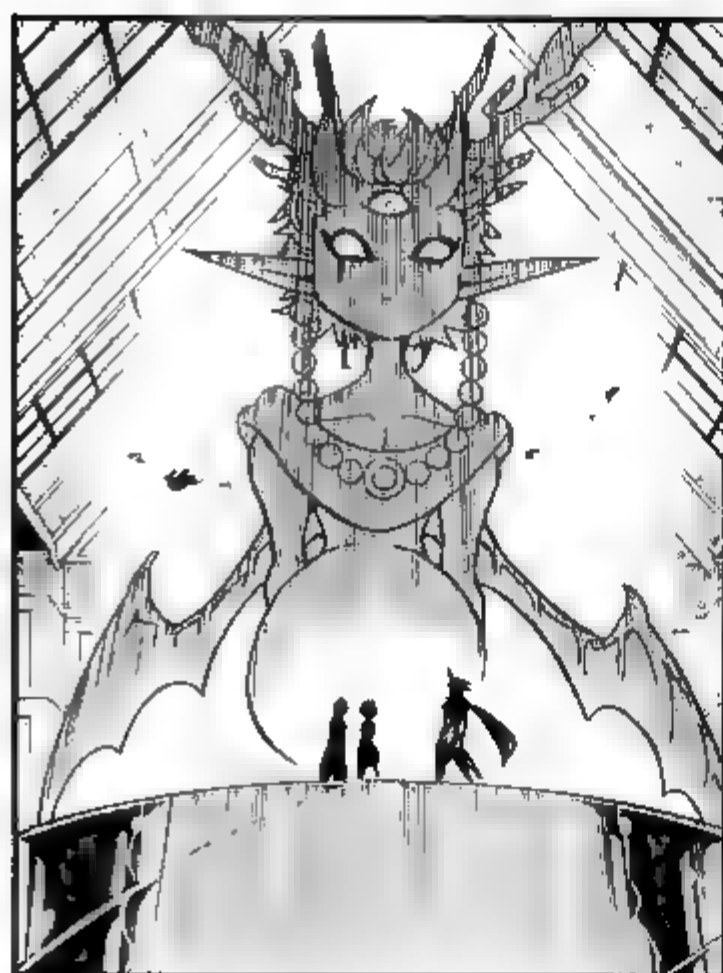
**I ONLY
APPEARED TO
BE DEAD.**

IT ONLY
LASTS FOR A
FEW MINUTES,
BUT IT'S A TECH-
NIQUE THAT
GIVES YOU THE
OPPORTUNITY TO
DECEIVE YOUR
ENEMY.

I OPENED
A SMALL HOLE
IN MY CHEST THAT
DRASTICALLY WEAK-
ENED MY HEARTBEAT
FOR A SHORT TIME,
PUTTING MY BODY
IN A DEATH-LIKE
STATE.







WHAT
THE HELL
IS THIS?



I WON'T
ACCEPT IT.
I CAN'T
ACCEPT...
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS.

THIS
ISN'T A
JOKE.



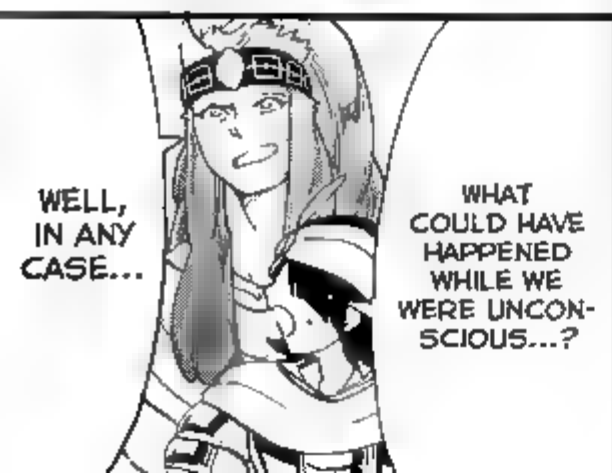
WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING?



DO YOU
REALLY THINK
YOU CAN WIN
LIKE THAT?









IF
SINBAD IS
GOING TO
FIGHT,

THEN
WE'LL FIGHT
ALONGSIDE
HIM!

... HOW
FOOLISH.

I'LL RIP
YOUR SOULS
APART.

EVEN IF HE
HAS A METAL
VESSEL, HE'S
STILL ONLY
HUMAN...

HE'S NO
THREAT TO A
DJINN LIKE ME
WHO HAS BEEN
GRANTED ETER-
NAL LIFE.



WAIT,
SINBAD!!



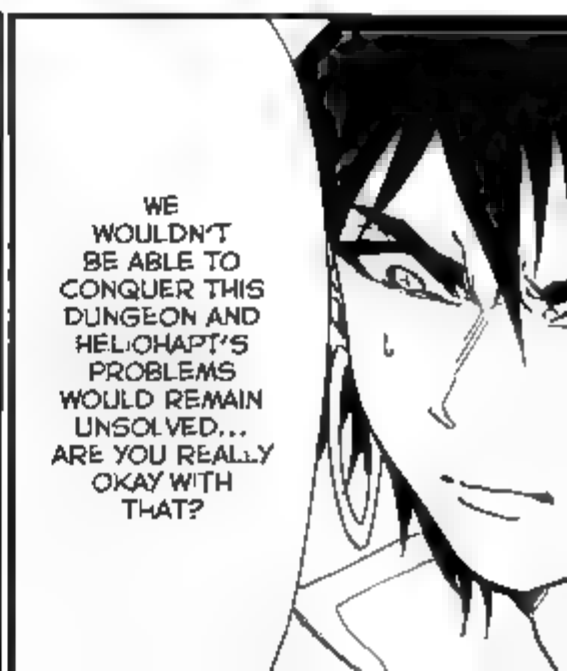
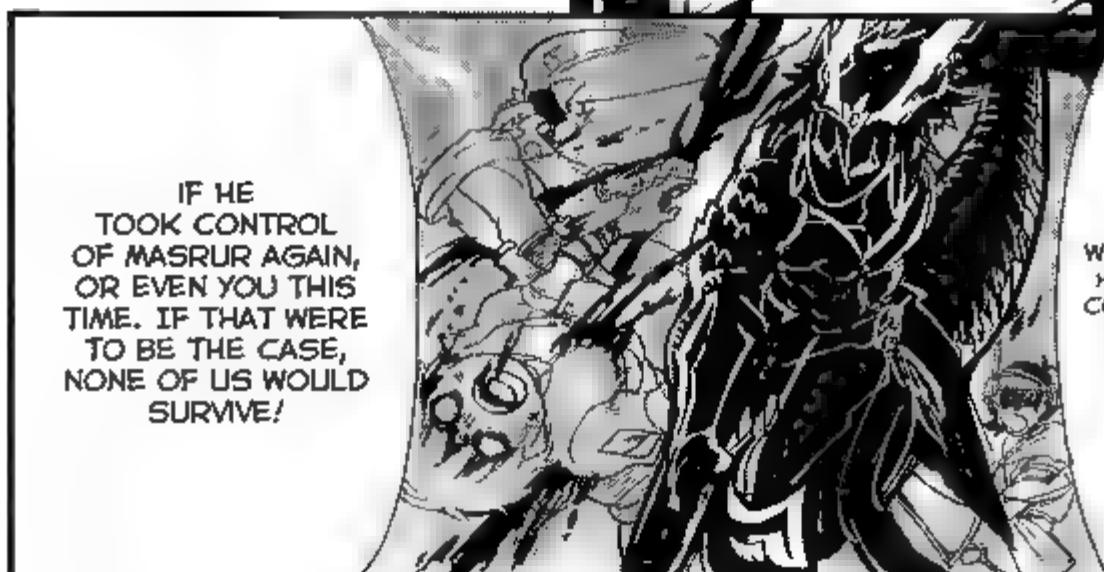
ZEPAR, I
APOLOGIZE
FOR OUR
RUDENESS.

COULD
WE PLEASE
CARRY ON
WITH THE
TRIALS?

WH...

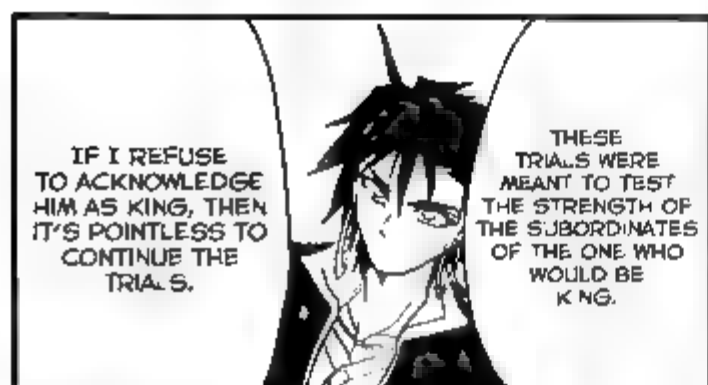
IT WON'T
DO ANY
GOOD TO
CARRY ON
THIS DIS-
PUTE.

SINBAD,
PLEASE PUT
DOWN YOUR
SWORD.





I BEG OF
YOU. PLEASE
CONTINUE THE
TRIALS TO
CHOOSE A
KING.



THESE
TRIALS WERE
MEANT TO TEST
THE STRENGTH OF
THE SUBORDINATES
OF THE ONE WHO
WOULD BE
KING.



I WON'T
ACKNOWLEDGE
SINBAD AS
KING.



THAN
WHAT SINBAD
HAS SHOWN
ME.

I EXPECT
MORE FROM
A KING
VESSEL



UHM
...

EXCUSE
ME!

OUR TRIALS
ARE OVER THEN.
WHAT MORE CAN
WE DO?



DOESNT
THAT MEAN THAT,
WHILE YOU REFUSE
TO ACKNOWLEDGE
SINBAD,

THE
TRIALS COULD
CONTINUE IF THERE
WAS ANOTHER
KING VESSEL
HERE?



IF THERE WAS
ANOTHER PERSON
HERE CAPABLE OF
BEING A KING
VESSEL,

I...
I MEAN, IT'S
TRUE, ISN'T
IT?

THEN THERE'S
A CHANCE THAT
PERSON COULD
BE CHOSEN,
ISN'T THERE?

MISS
TAMIRA?
WHAT DO YOU
MEAN...

?

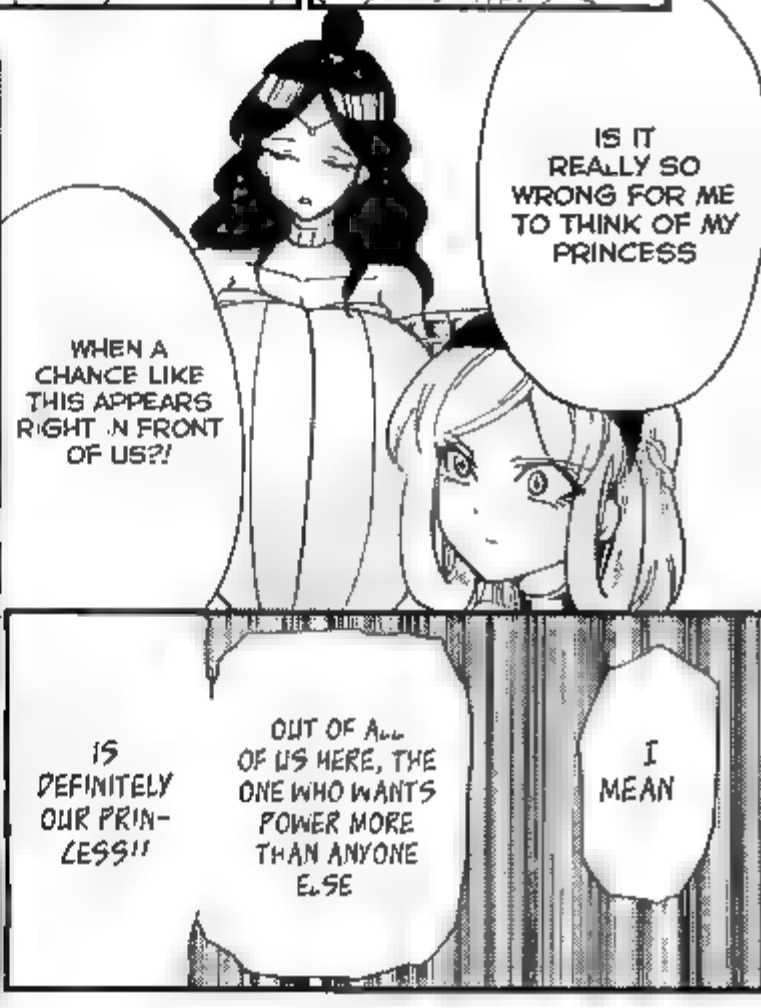
LADY
SERENDINE
AS ANOTHER
KING VES-
SEL!

WOULD
LIKE TO RECOM-
MEND

IF SO,
I...



I... I KNOW!







PLEASE
CONSIDER LADY
SERENDINE AS
ANOTHER OPTION
FOR A KING
VESSEL,

AND
ALLOW US
TO UNDERGO
YOUR TRIAL.



INSTEAD
OF FIGHTING
WITH ZEPAR,

IT'S
TRUE
THAT

UNDERGOING
HIS TRIALS AND
OBTAINING THE
METAL VESSEL
IS AN INFINITE-
LY BETTER
OPTION..



YOU'RE
WILLING TO
GO THIS
FAR...



SAHEL...

TAMIRA,



ON TOP
OF THAT, CAN
WE REALLY JUST
STAND ASIDE AND
LET SOMEONE ELSE
TAKE THE METAL
VESSEL?



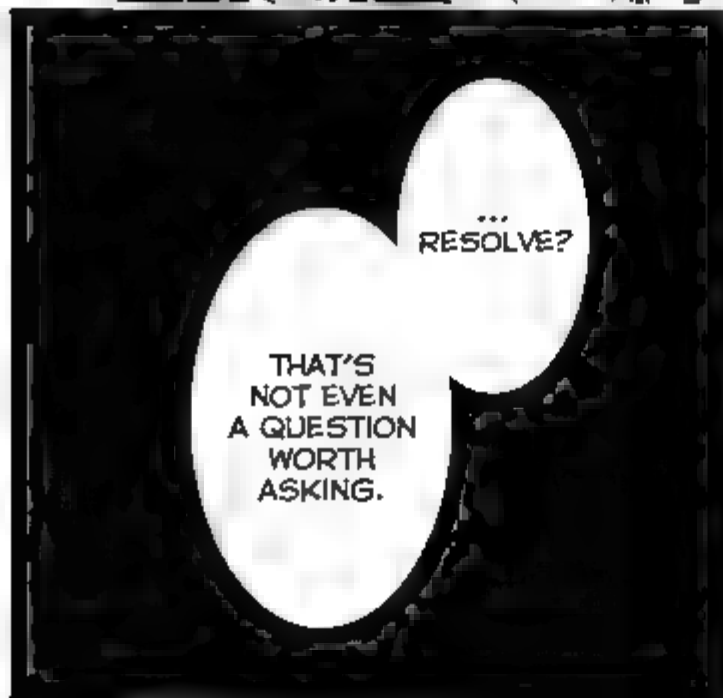
BUT THIS
IS ZEPAR
WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT.



SEREN.



THERE'S
NO WAY
OF TELLING
WHAT KIND
OF CRAZY
TRIAL HE'LL
THINK
OF NEXT.



...
RESOLVE?

THAT'S
NOT EVEN
A QUESTION
WORTH
ASKING.

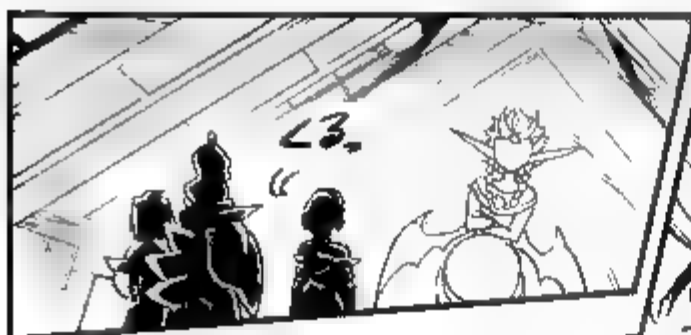
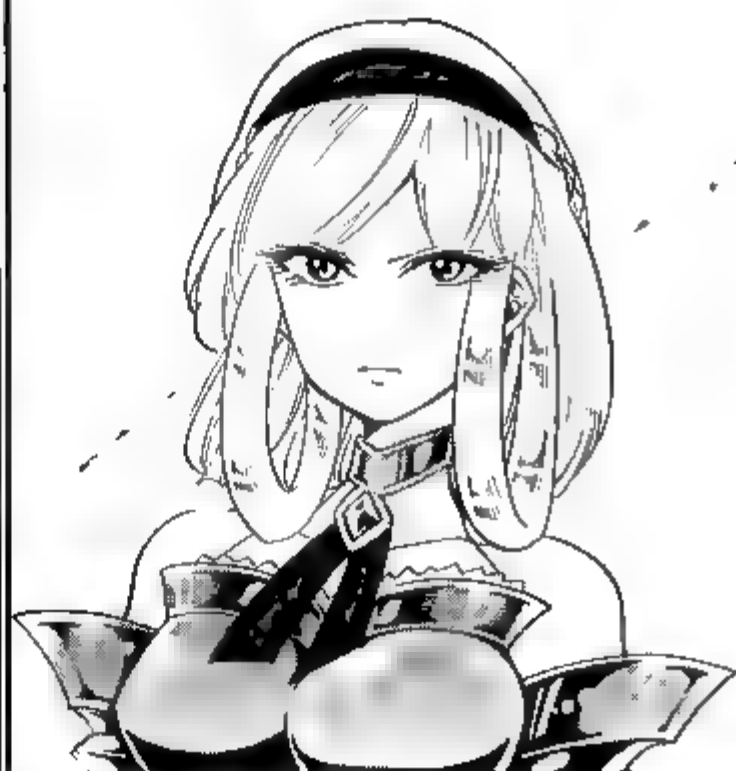


DO
YOU HAVE
THE RESOLVE
IT TAKES

TO
UNDERGO
THE DJINN'S
TRIALS?

I CAN'T
JUST BLATANTLY
IGNORE THE
FEELINGS OF
THE TWO
PEOPLE

THAT
HAVE
CARED
SO MUCH
ABOUT
ME.



ZEPAR.

TO TAKE
BACK MY HOME
COUNTRY AND
TO CHANGE
MYSELF, WHO
HAS BEEN
POWERLESS TO
DO ANYTHING!

I WANT
POWER.





LET ME
UNDERGO
YOUR TRIALS
TO BECOME
KING!!

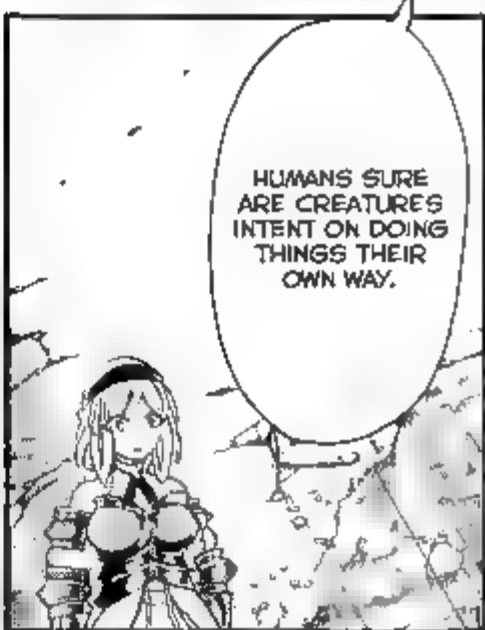
PLEASE
GIVE ME A
CHANCE!



HUMANS
REALLY
ARE...

WHOSE
FRIENDS,
WHOSE
SUBOR-
DINATES,

AND
WHO'S THE
KING VESSEL.
YOU HAVEN'T
LISTENED TO
WHAT I'VE SAID
ABOUT ANY
OF IT..



HUMANS SURE
ARE CREATURES
INTENT ON DOING
THINGS THEIR
OWN WAY.

FINE. I'LL
RECOGNIZE YOU
AS A POSSIBLE
KING VESSEL.

HOWEVER...

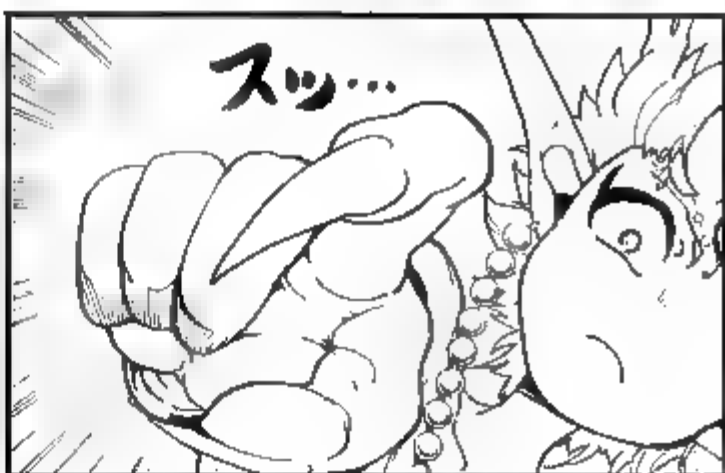


INTERESTING
CREATURES.



SO. MY
TRIAL FOR
YOU...

ALL OF
THAT WAS JUST
BIG TALK. I CAN'T
RECOGNIZE YOU AS
KING WITH SOME
HALF-HEARTED
TRIAL.





BUT IT'S BORING IF YOU JUST FIGHT TO COMPARE YOUR STRENGTH LIKE THE FIGHTS I'VE ALREADY SEEN...

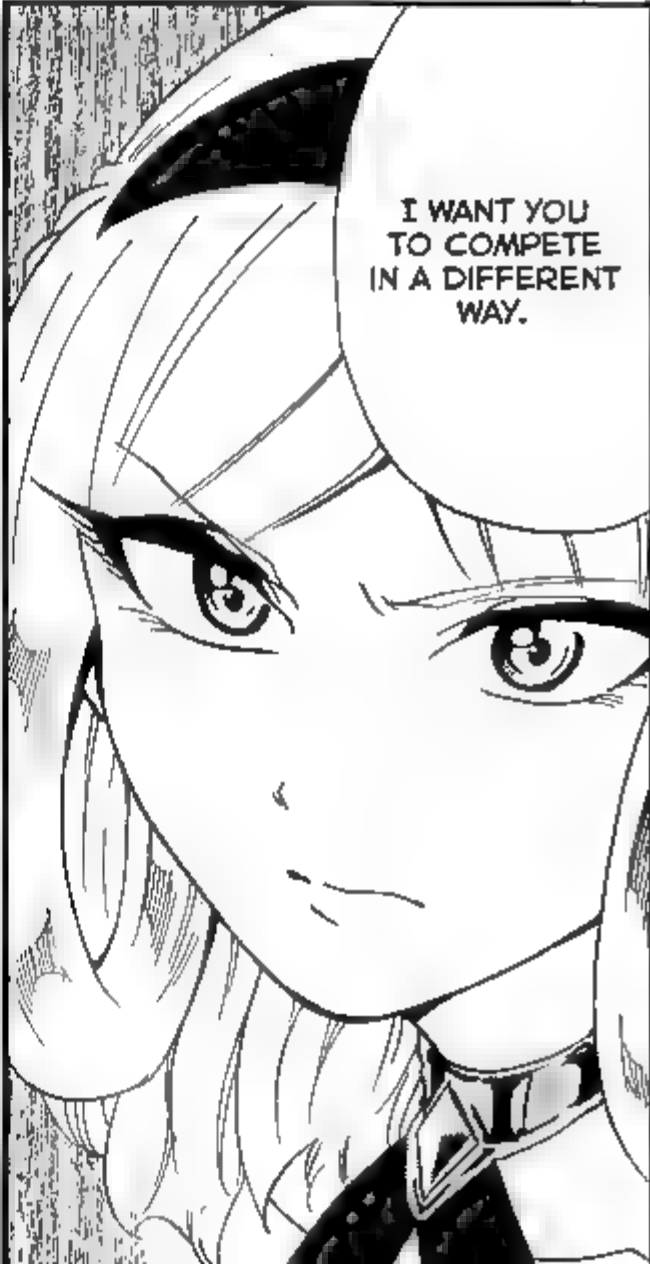
SO IT'S NATURAL TO HAVE YOU FIGHT EACH OTHER, RIGHT?

THERE ARE TWO KING VESSELS.

THAT'S WHY,



THIS WILL BE MY FINAL TRIAL.



I WANT YOU TO COMPETE IN A DIFFERENT WAY.



I'LL
HAVE YOU
FIGHT IN A
DIFFERENT
WAY.

IT'LL
BE BORING IF
YOU JUST FIGHT
TO COMPARE YOUR
STRENGTH LIKE
THE FIGHTS THUS
FAR. THAT'S
WHY

THAT
WILL BE
MY FINAL
TEST.





THEY'LL
BE USING
WORDS
TO ARGUE
AGAINST
EACH OTHER,
ESSENTIALLY
HAVING A
MENTAL FIST
FIGHT,

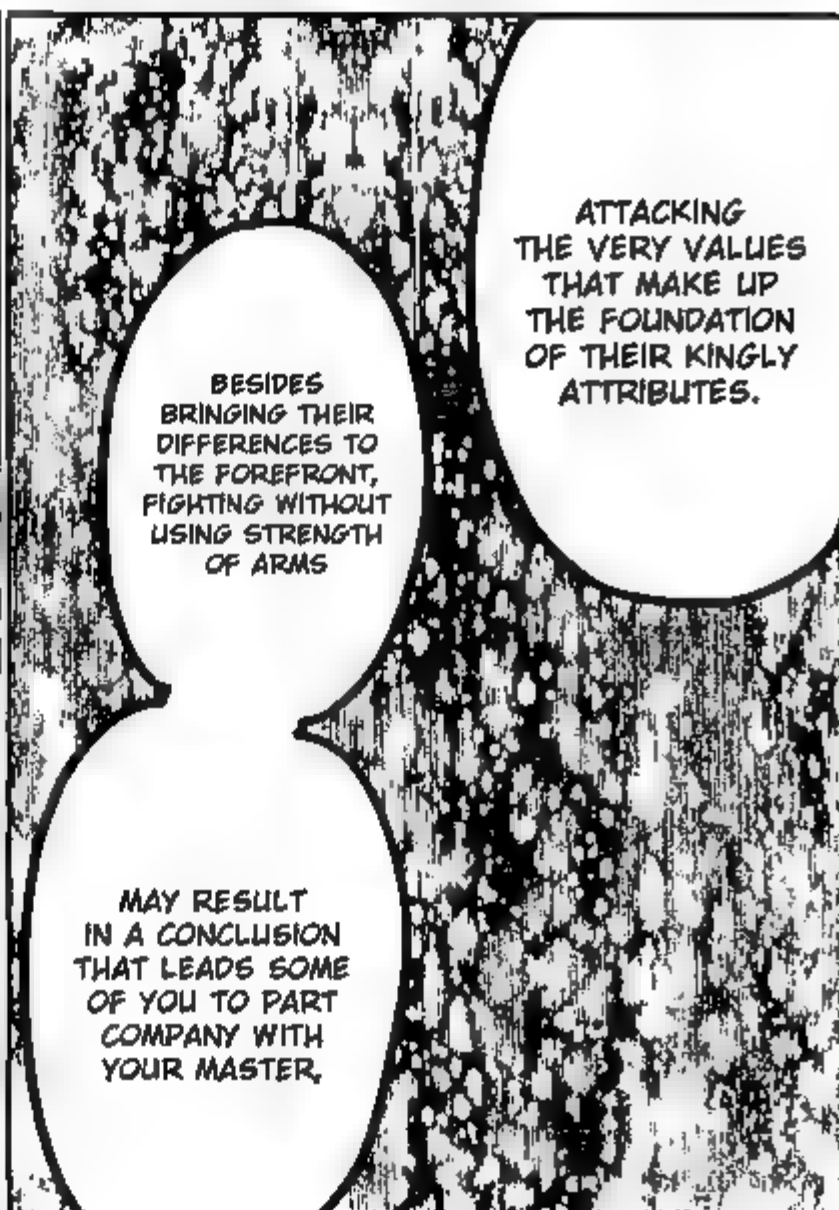
IT SEEMS
LIKE YOU
DON'T QUITE
UNDERSTAND
THE NATURE OF
THIS FIGHT.



OH? IT'S
A LITTLE
EARLY TO
BE FEELING
RELIEVED,
ISN'T IT?



AS YOU FIND
THAT YOUR IDEALS
CONFLICT WITH THOSE
OF THE KING VESSEL
YOU HAVE RISKED
FLESH AND BLOOD
FOR!



ATTACKING
THE VERY VALUES
THAT MAKE UP
THE FOUNDATION
OF THEIR KINGLY
ATTRIBUTES.

BESIDES
BRINGING THEIR
DIFFERENCES TO
THE FOREFRONT,
FIGHTING WITHOUT
USING STRENGTH
OF ARMS

MAY RESULT
IN A CONCLUSION
THAT LEADS SOME
OF YOU TO PART
COMPANY WITH
YOUR MASTER,



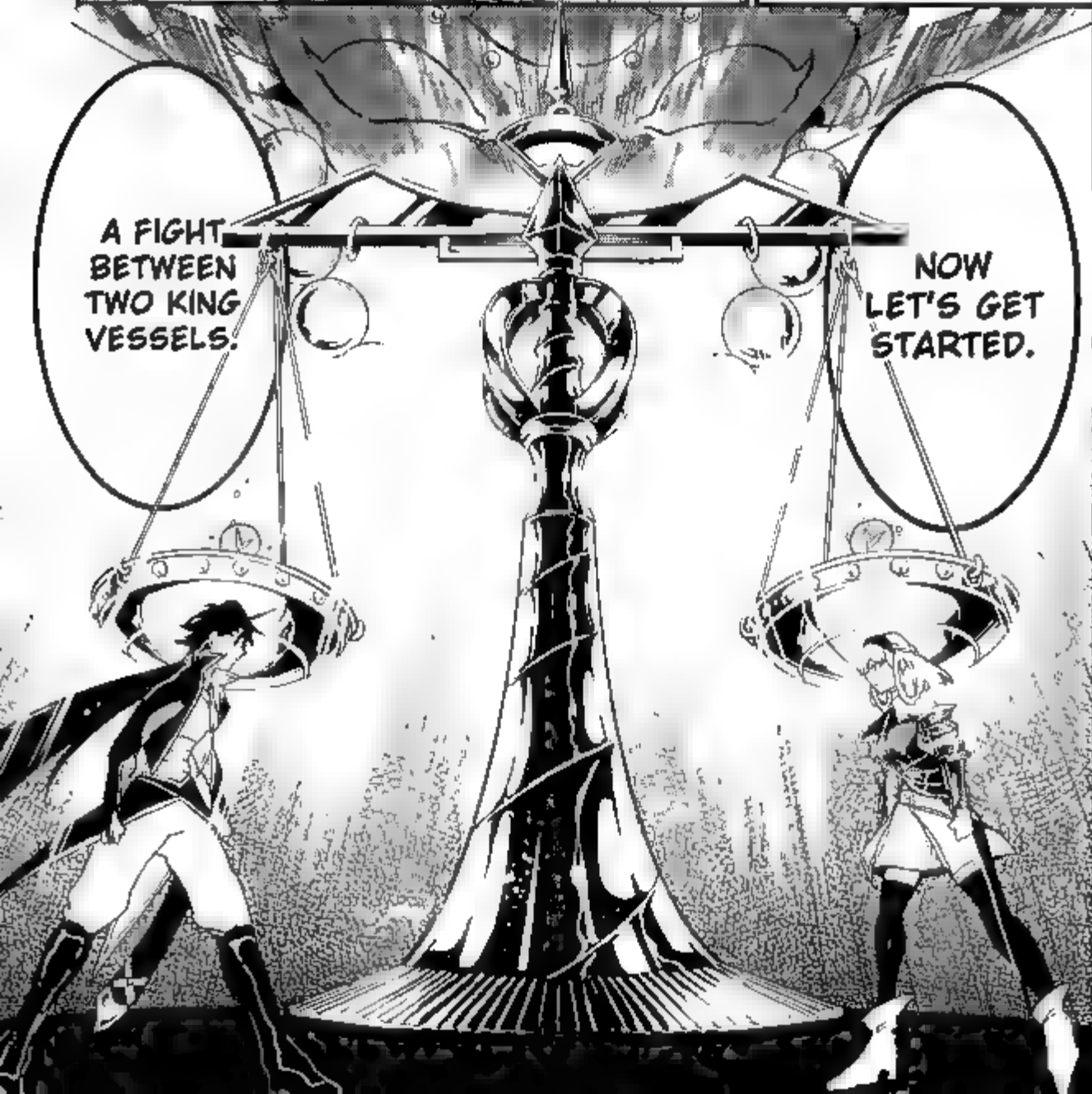


WHEN
THE SCALES
TIP TOWARDS
ONE SIDE, THAT
WILL INDICATE
THE WINNER.

IF
YOUR HEART
WAVERS,
THIS COPY
I'VE MADE
WILL ALSO
WAVER.



NO
MATTER HOW
WELL YOU'RE
ABLE TO KEEP
YOUR COOL ON
THE SURFACE,
YOUR HEART
CAN'T LIE.



A FIGHT
BETWEEN
TWO KING
VESSELS.

NOW
LET'S GET
STARTED.

HOW
WOULD YOU
USE IT?

IF YOU
WERE AWARDED
THE METAL
VESSEL



MY
QUESTION
FOR THE KING
VESSELS...



I WOULD
USE THE POWER
OF THAT METAL
VESSEL TO
CHANGE THE
WORLD.

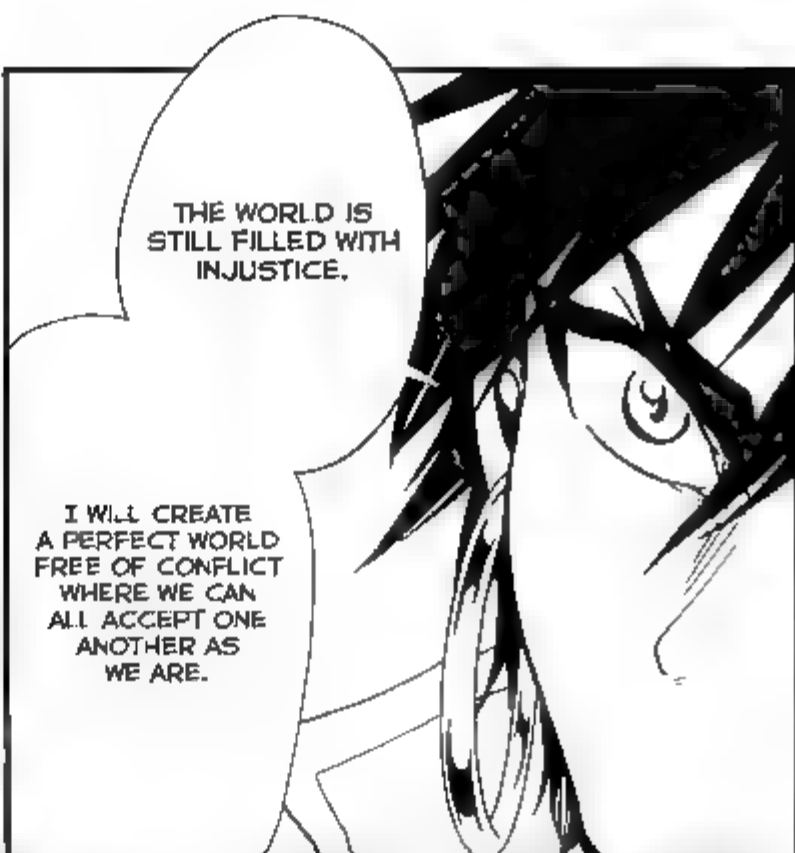
FOR THAT
PURPOSE, I HAVE
MADE EFFORTS TO
CREATE ALLIANCES
WITH OTHER COUN-
TRIES AND CONTINUE
TO ADVANCE TO-
WARDS MY GOAL
OF CREATING MY
OWN COUNTRY



ZEPAR.
THAT'S
EASY.



MY
INTENTIONS
HAVEN'T CHANGED
AT ALL SINCE
THE MOMENT I
GAINED BAAL'S
POWER!!



THE WORLD IS
STILL FILLED WITH
INJUSTICE.

I WILL CREATE
A PERFECT WORLD
FREE OF CONFLICT
WHERE WE CAN
ALL ACCEPT ONE
ANOTHER AS
WE ARE.



I HAVE
NO DESIRE
TO STAND IN
THE WAY OF
HIS EFFORTS
TOWARDS
THEM.

BUT...

... I

CAN
EMPATHIZE
WITH SINBAD'S
IDEALS.



WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

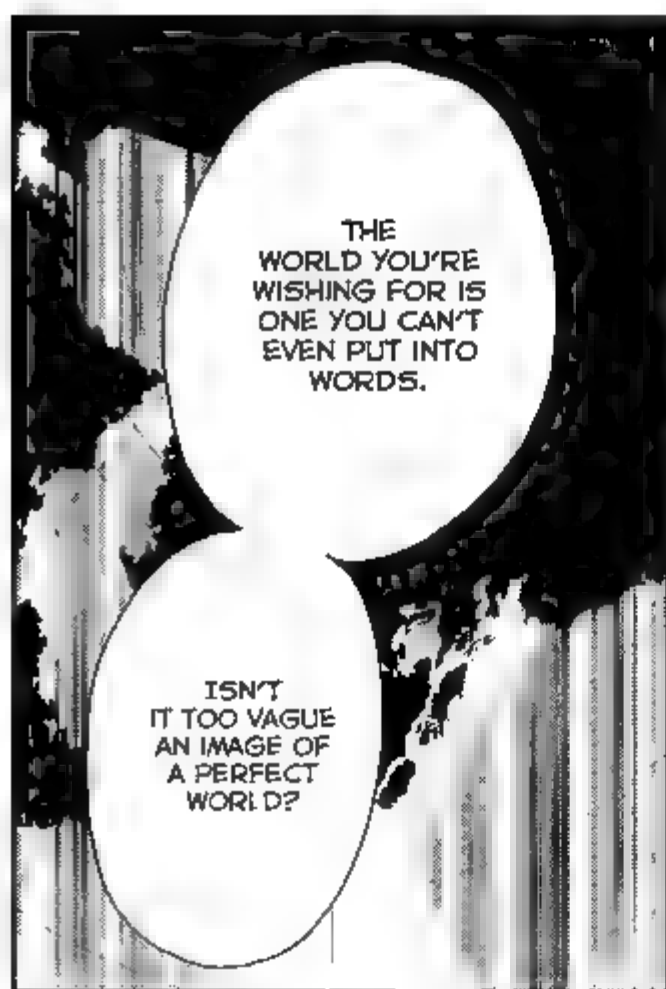


WELL,
SERENDINE,
THAT'S HIS
SIDE.



THERE'S
NO SUBSTANCE TO
THEM, LIKE A DREAM
WHERE YOUR FEET
NEVER TOUCH THE
GROUND.

YOUR
IDEALS ARE
JUST A BUNCH
OF PRETTY
WORDS.



THE
WORLD YOU'RE
WISHING FOR IS
ONE YOU CAN'T
EVEN PUT INTO
WORDS.

ISN'T
IT TOO VAGUE
AN IMAGE OF
A PERFECT
WORLD?



JUST WHAT IS
THAT "PERFECT
WORLD" YOU
KEEP GOING
ON ABOUT?



OR A WORLD OF
COMPLETE EQUALITY
WITH NO COUNTRIES,
NO RACES, AND NO
DISCRIMINATION?

A WORLD
WITHOUT
POVERTY?

A
WORLD
WITHOUT
WAR?



EVERYONE WISHES THAT THEY COULD CHANGE SOMETHING ABOUT THE WORLD. THAT'S WHY EVERYONE AGREES WITH YOUR DESIRE TO CHANGE THINGS.

THAT JUST MAKES IT SEEM EVEN MORE DISINGENUOUS.

THERE'S NO ONE IN THE WORLD WHO HASN'T FACED SOME SORT OF INJUSTICE.



I'VE MADE MANY FRIENDS AND FORMED ALIANCES WITH THOSE WHO AGREE WITH MY DEALS ...!

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

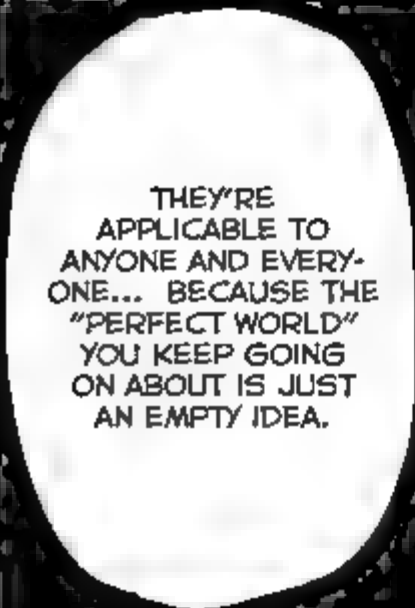


THAT'S NOTHING MORE THAN YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND BENEFITING FROM THE FACT THAT EVERYONE WISHES FOR SOME VERSION OF AN IDEAL WORLD!

THAT'S NOT REAL APPROVAL FOR THE WORLD YOU'RE TRYING TO CREATE!



OF COURSE! THAT'S NATURAL! WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?!

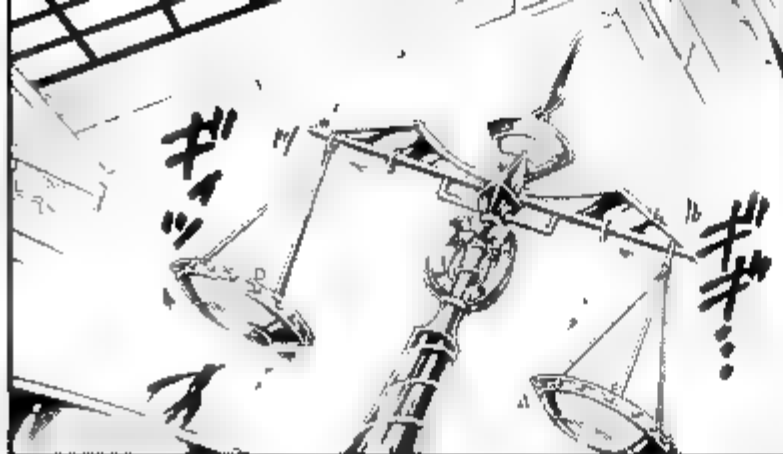


THEY'RE APPLICABLE TO ANYONE AND EVERYONE... BECAUSE THE "PERFECT WORLD" YOU KEEP GOING ON ABOUT IS JUST AN EMPTY IDEA.



YOUR WORDS MAKE PEOPLE FEEL GOOD.

THAT'S ALSO NATURAL.



.. IF THAT'S
THE CASE, HOW
WOULD YOU USE
THIS POWER,
SERENDINE?



I WOULD
USE IT FOR
THE SAKE OF
MY COUNTRY
AND ONLY MY
COUNTRY.

IF I WAS
ABLE TO GAIN
THE POWER OF
A KING,

.. THAT'S
A GOOD
QUESTION.



JUST HOW
PARTHEVIA
WAS BACK
THEN, ISN'T
IT?!

ARE YOU
SAYING IT'S
ENOUGH JUST
TO MAKE YOUR
OWN COUNTRY
HAPPY?!

THAT'S



FOR
YOUR
COUN-
TRY?

THAT
WOULDN'T
CHANGE
ANYTHING
THEN,
WOULD
IT?

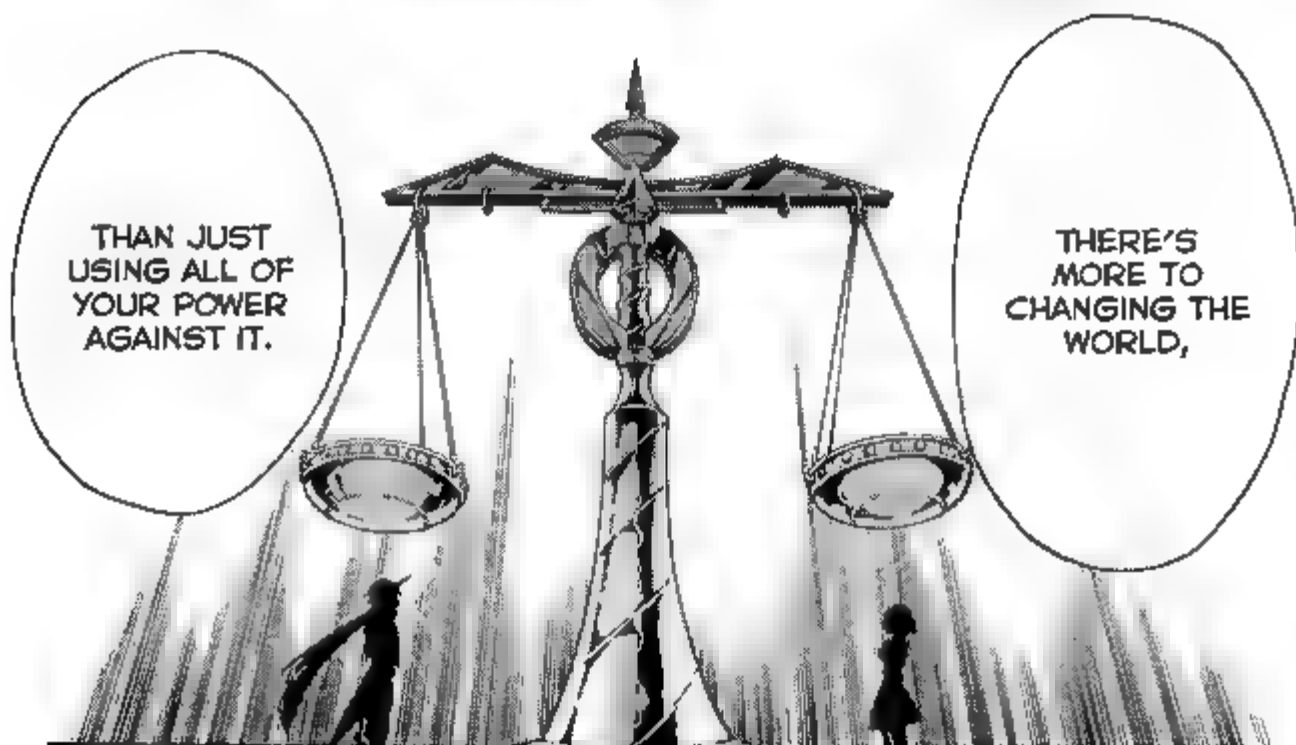


...
SINBAD.



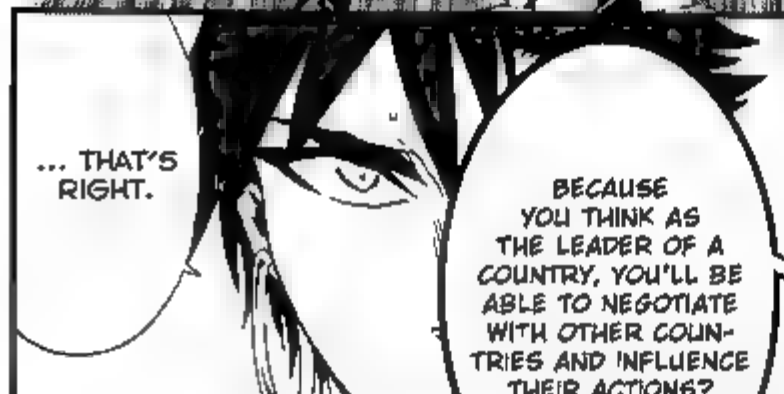
THEN...
WHY?!

I
WON'T
DENY
THAT.



THAN JUST
USING ALL OF
YOUR POWER
AGAINST IT.

THERE'S
MORE TO
CHANGING THE
WORLD,



... THAT'S
RIGHT.

BECAUSE
YOU THINK AS
THE LEADER OF A
COUNTRY, YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO NEGOTIATE
WITH OTHER COUN-
TRIES AND INFLUENCE
THEIR ACTIONS?



YOU
DON'T NEED A
COUNTRY. JUST
BEING A MERCHANT
IS ENOUGH, ISN'T
IT?

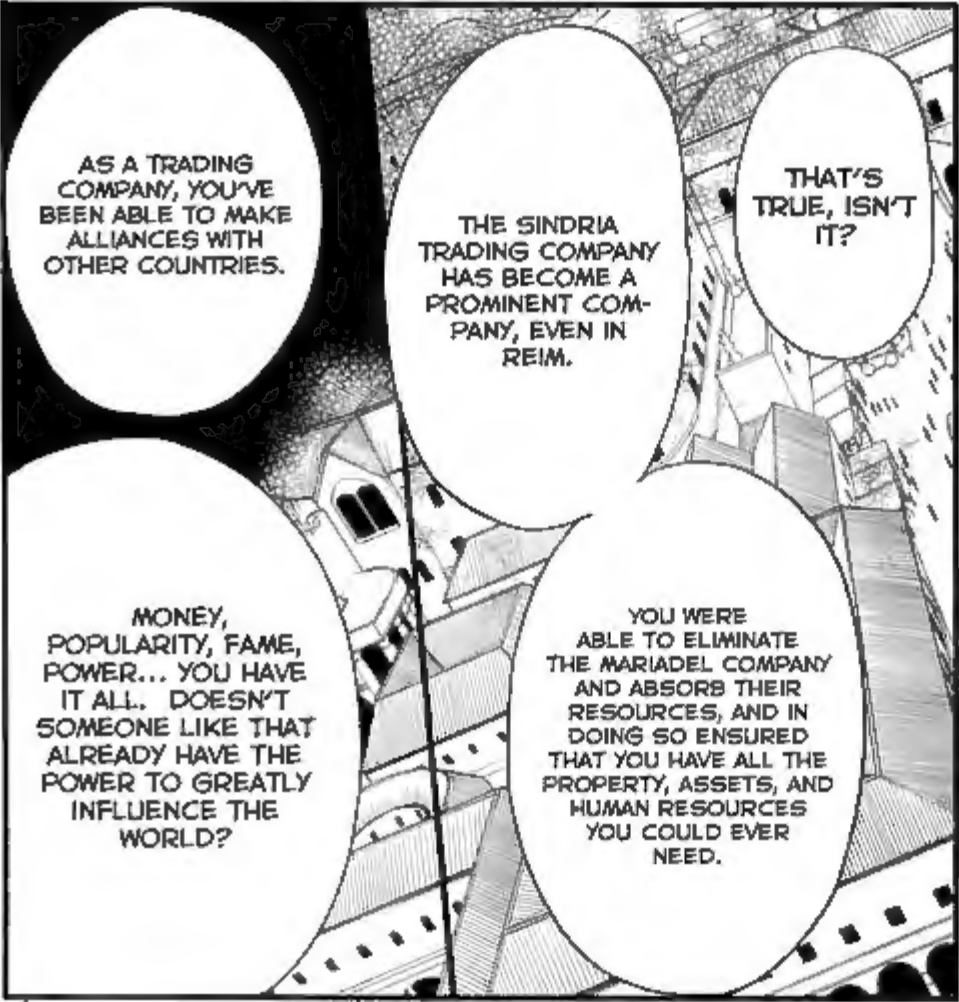
RIGHT...
IF THAT'S
THE CASE,



?

YOU WISH
TO FOUND A
COUNTRY AS
A MEANS TO
CHANGE THE
WORLD, DON'T
YOU?

YE...
YEAH.



AS A TRADING COMPANY, YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE ALLIANCES WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE SINDRIA TRADING COMPANY HAS BECOME A PROMINENT COMPANY, EVEN IN REIM.

THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?

MONEY, POPULARITY, FAME, POWER... YOU HAVE IT ALL. DOESN'T SOMEONE LIKE THAT ALREADY HAVE THE POWER TO GREATLY INFLUENCE THE WORLD?

YOU WERE ABLE TO ELIMINATE THE MARIADEL COMPANY AND ABSORB THEIR RESOURCES, AND IN DOING SO ENSURED THAT YOU HAVE ALL THE PROPERTY, ASSETS, AND HUMAN RESOURCES YOU COULD EVER NEED.



!!?

IT'D BE EASIER TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT WE WANT AS A COUNTRY.

IN THE END, A TRADING COMPANY IS JUST A TRADING COMPANY.

... THAT'S OBVIOUS.

EVEN IF YOU DON'T FOUND YOUR OWN COUNTRY, YOU ALREADY HAVE EVERYTHING YOU WISHED FOR.

I SEE. IN THAT CASE, NONE OF YOU...

SO YOU STILL WANT MORE, HUH...

WHICH IS WHY SIN NEEDS TO FOUND A COUNTRY...



... SO WHY DO YOU STILL WISH FOR A COUNTRY?



AS A KING,
WOULDN'T YOUR ROLE
BE TO PROTECT YOUR
COUNTRY AND YOUR
CITIZENS AND NOT TO
GO OUT AND CHANGE
THE WORLD?!

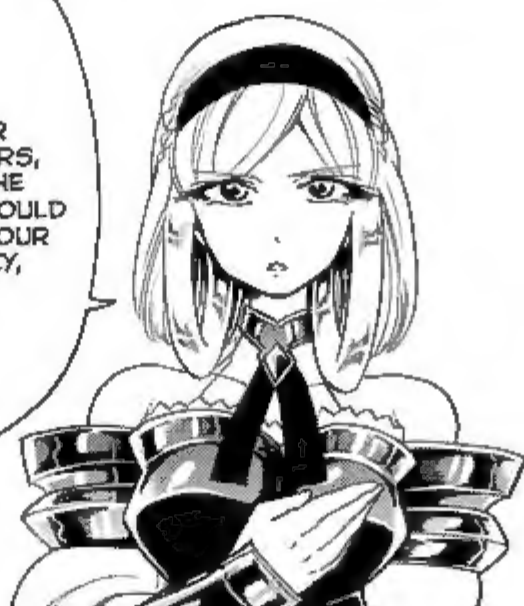


DO YOU HAVE
ANY IDEA HOW
DIFFICULT IT IS TO
KEEP DOMESTIC
AFFAIRS STABLE
AND PROTECT THE
LIVELIHOOD OF
YOUR CITIZENS?

IT'S
JUST A MATTER
OF FACT THAT
DIPLOMACY
HAS TO COME
SECOND.

I WOULD
STABILIZE OUR
DOMESTIC AFFAIRS,
AND IF I HAD THE
EXTRA POWER, I WOULD
TRY TO IMPROVE OUR
FOREIGN POLICY,
BUT

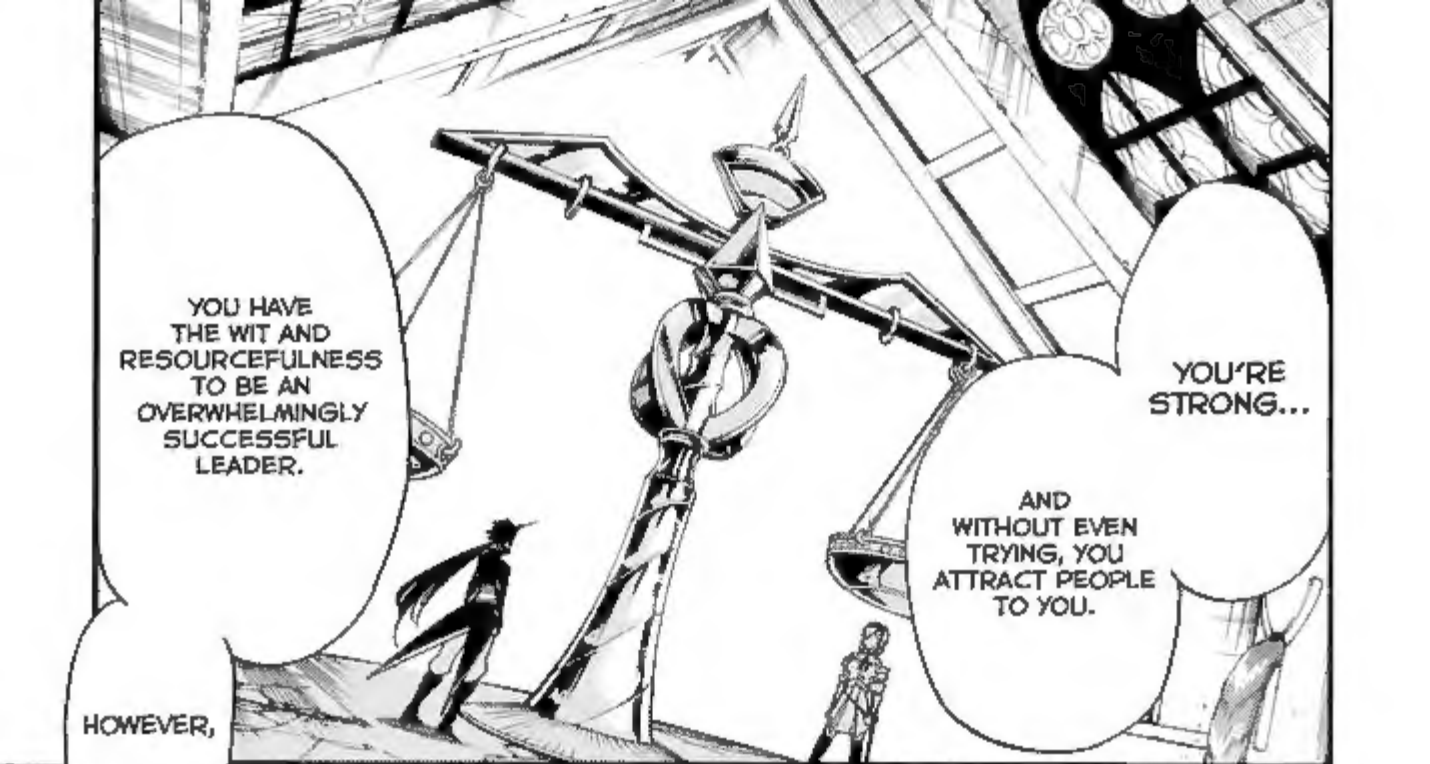
GIVING
PRIORITY
TO YOUR OWN
COUNTRY IS
JUST A NATURAL
PART OF BEING
A RULER.



I WOULD
USE THIS POWER IN
ORDER TO PROTECT
MY COUNTRY AND
ITS CITIZENS.

DOESN'T
THAT MAKE
YOU UNSUITED
TO CREATE A
COUNTRY?

YOU'RE
ALWAYS LOOKING
FURTHER AND
FURTHER AHEAD AT
THE WORLD AS A
WHOLE.



YOU HAVE
THE WIT AND
RESOURCEFULNESS
TO BE AN
OVERWHELMINGLY
SUCCESSFUL
LEADER.

YOU'RE
STRONG...

AND
WITHOUT EVEN
TRYING, YOU
ATTRACT PEOPLE
TO YOU.

HOWEVER,



BECAUSE
OF THOSE
THINGS,

YOU'RE
NOT SUITED
TO BE A
KING!!